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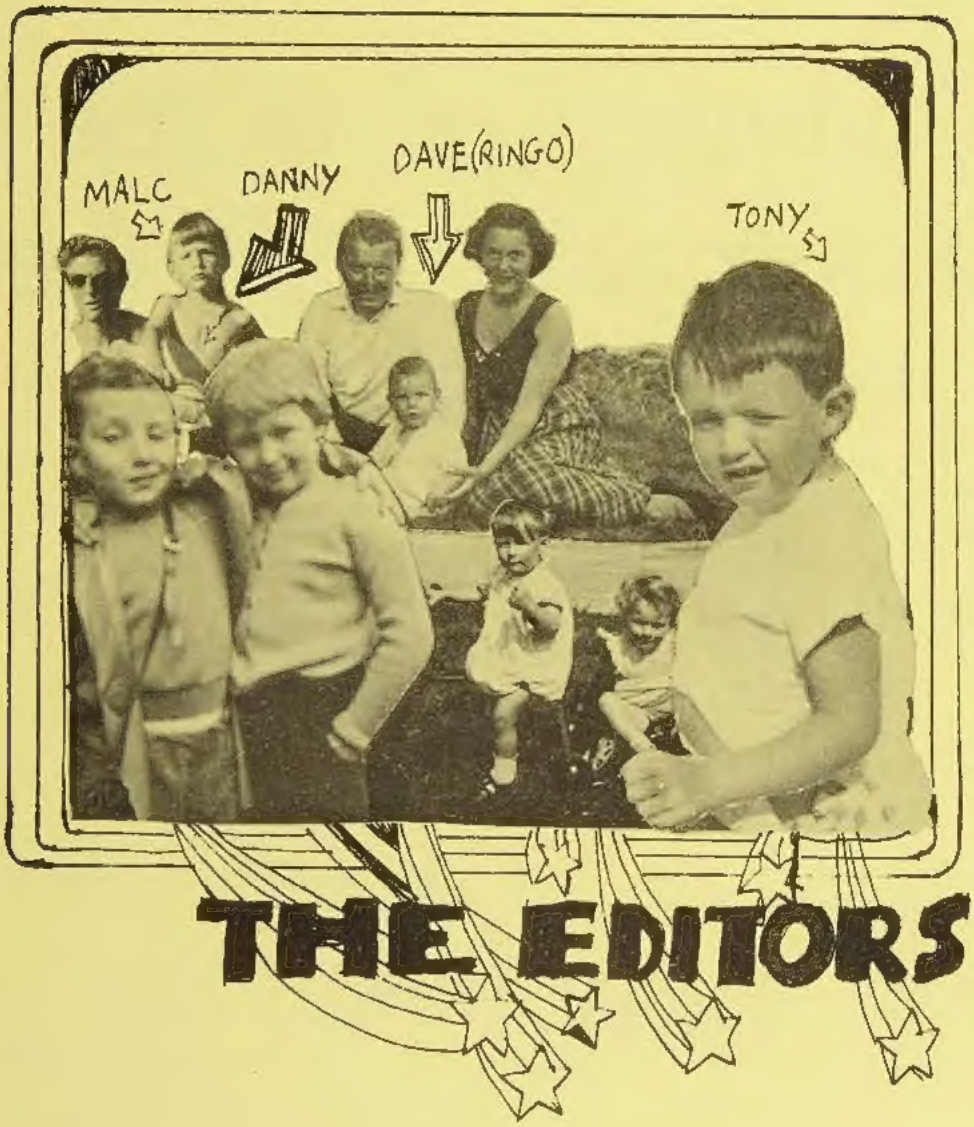
THE SKYLARK

Magazine of the Haberdashers' Aske's School Elstree

Malcolm Last.
Tony Bard
Danny Friedman
David Stark

vol.23 no.57



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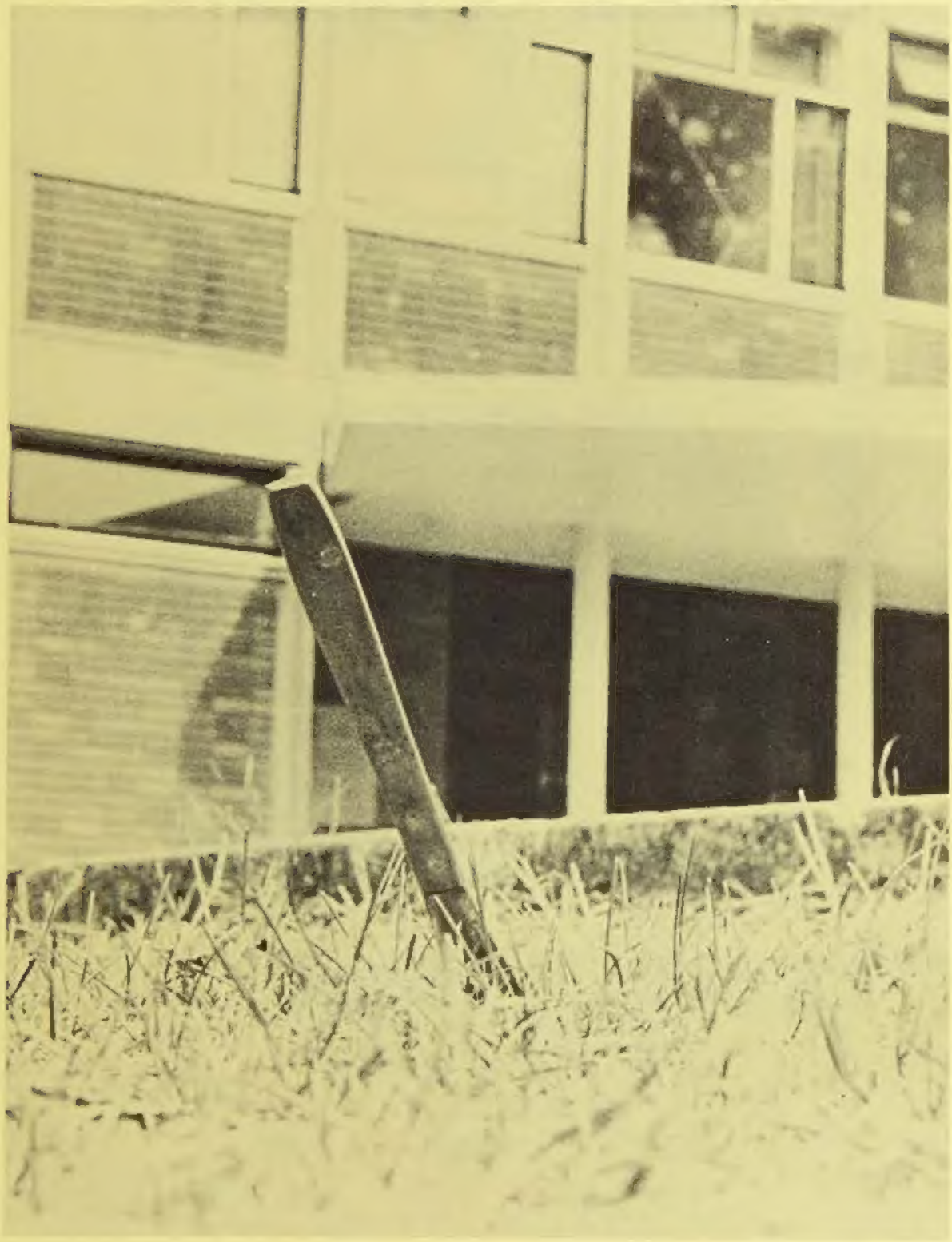


D. L. Holder.

"Haberdashery"

Editorial

The author of the enthusiastic Autumn editorial met with rather an alarming response from among the diverse and far-flung readership of the magazine. One common opinion seemed to be that he had been coerced into writing the way he did and was in fact being totally ironical throughout. Of course he really meant everything he said about our School and everyone really agrees with every word. It is not possible these days to be openly and vigorously zealous about the positive side of things? Surely those times are past when the editorial here consisted of a doleful piece of amateur pessimism, in which the editor made some caustic remarks about 'apathy' or the state of the originals section, usually with no more significant grievance than the boring nature of the most recent Open Day... There ain't no such animal as 'apathy' in Haberdashers' and anyone with half an eye open for the 'Gay Clive' record society, or Prep. School piggy back races, or notice-boards stuck with rude things about South Africa, or even the exhaustive list of currently blossoming activities in that Autumn editorial, must realise this. Is there some perpetual neurosis in the make-up of the 20th century child, or some devious facet of the English temperament that scorns enthusiasm in its healthy, overt state?

In our super-matriarchal, benevolent, permissive, egalitarian, welfare-conscious society, education is rapidly becoming an amenity of as little consequence as national insurance schemes or fire-hydrants. Once the student had to fight and struggle in order to be able to study; he was perhaps despised by his pals in factories making hard cash by labour of biceps instead of by exercise of brains; he had to struggle in order to prove himself. Today the student has respect far in excess of his true position in society; he is encouraged merely to raise a yelp in order to be suckled on more and better education for more of his brood. Consequently his attitude is typical of the favourite child in any family - he thinks of his role as an offer, of his valuable and much requested-services to the community and expects to be met this gratitude for his altruism... Instead of considering himself in a position to exploit a rare and special advantage, the modern scholar is part of a labour market and even uses withdrawal of his labour as a weapon of 'bargaining'. It is no accident that the phenomena of industrial machinery - ' shop-stewards', unions, strikes and even 'lock-outs' — should have appeared in our educational system, from the L.S.E. to striking teachers and "schools action unions". An attitude of disgrunted, grievance-laden cynicism is replacing the old relationship of respect for one's teachers and eagerness to learn, which used to characterise the better schools and all universities.

A school is therefore only what you make it. Every organised community is always on the brink of turning sour, where pride in one's collective identity becomes a desire to slope off and express 'individuality', where self-motivation becomes forced activity, where one's superiors are 'oppressors', administration of 'tyranny' and one's interests merely diversions. It all depends on the word you choose and the attitude you adopt. I personally enjoy the sensation of singing in the morning with 1000 gusty youths, whatever the objections to a religious assembly. As a grimy Londoner, I revel in my stroll around the grounds in the lunch-hour, however much others complain about the places one isn't allowed to go. I find myself warm inside and relatively satisfied after a school meal, however unchanging some may proclaim the diet. How much one enjoys school and is prepared to shout about it, depends in short not merely in considering one's golden cup half-full when it may be only half-empty, but also on constantly reminding oneself that one is very lucky to have any sort of golden cup at all in the first place.

Nigerian Relief:

Sir Gerald Nabarro evening

At 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday February 25th, after weeks of publicity throughout Hertfordshire, a black Daimler, with registration number 'NAB 1' drew up outside the foyer of the Assembly Hall.

In November last year, when the Biafran war was at its height, Sir Gerald Nabarro, Kt., M.P.. had been invited to address the School, by the Committee of the Nigerian Relief Society. He was most co-operative and suggested that the meeting should take the form of an 'Any Questions?' session. The aim of the meeting was to collect money to send as aid to Biafra.

So that he could attend the meeting, Sir Gerald forewent the concluding hours of a debate in the House of Commons on a motion on the Common Market. He brought with him copies of his book 'NAB ONE - Portrait of a Politician'. Each copy was personally autographed and a quarter of the receipts were presented to the fund.

Before the meeting began Sir Gerald spoke to many members of the large and enthusiastic audience. In his own inimitable way, he answered questions on a wide range of topics during the two and a half hour meeting, including such controversial issues as apartheid, the Springbok's Tour, the permissive society, student files, Selective Employment Tax and Purchase Tax. Sir Gerald also made a number of forecasts regarding the contents of the then forthcoming budget. The audience responded to his ebullience and plied him with questions, which were also answered with characteristic wit and panache. Sir Gerald obviously enjoyed the meeting and paid tribute to the audience in a letter which he sent to the Secretary of the Nigerian Relief Society, in which he wrote "....I greatly enjoyed the time I spent with you all at the Haberdashers' Aske's School in Elstree on 25th February, 1970. The questions you fired at me were intelligent and stimulating and encouraged good discussion on a variety of contemporary topics."

The Committee of the Nigerian Relief Society would like to thank the School Office, for so helpfully duplicating 1500 letters and arranging their despatch, the domestic staff, who so kindly arranged the coffee for the audience at the meeting; Malcolm Last for designing the magnificent posters publicising the event and the Art Department for printing them, The Committee also wishes to thank the Printing Room for printing the tickets and Mr. John Andrew for selling Sir Gerald's book during the interval. Thanks are also due to Mr. Bausor, President of the Society, and the Headmaster, who chaired the meeting so ably and impartially and, of course, to Sir Gerald. £120 was raised and has been dispatched to the Save the Children Fund to be used to buy an emergency kit for a doctor in Nigeria.

Without doubt the meeting provided an unprecedented new form of extracurricular political activity. It is hoped that other similar meetings will be arranged.

J.T. HARRIS
SECRETARY, NIGERIAN RELIEF SOCIETY
(R.N. Goodman, J.I.H. Dale and A.W. Page)

Political Survey

The enterprise of J.I.H. Dale, R.N. Goodman and A.W. Page of 6B last term produced a most significant document of great length and immense detail. Based upon a 'New Society' survey of the child's view of the role and importance of the Queen and Prime Minister in modern Britain, the Haberdashers' survey undertook to answer some of the questions posed by the results of the original one. Questions were put to over 560 pupils from the preparatory department up to the third forms in an attempt to trace the development of political awareness in the School.

Perhaps more interesting than the results obtained was the psychological insight gained by the surveyors into the workings of childrens' minds and the unusual common responses to questions apparently quite straightforward. Questions about 'Harold Wilson' for example would produce a totally different reaction to ones about 'the Prime Minister' corresponding to the limited experience that the children had had of the appellations in specific contexts.

Some observations during one survey were also recorded: it was noted that the prep. boys acted with far more seriousness than the older boys, who in contrast to the 'concern and anxiety' about issues involved were generally noisy and 'frivolous'.

QUESTIONS

1. Who is the most important person for Britain to-day?

   (a) Edward Heath
   (b) Prince Charles
   (c) Prime Minister
   (d) Queen
   (e) No-one in particular.

2. 'A Communist government is .....'

   (a) very good
   (b) good
   (c) not bad
   (d) bad
   (e) very bad

3. 'The main job of a policeman is to protect .....'

   (a) Us
   (b) The Queen
   (c) Other policemen.

The surveyors concluded that although development of awareness is almost continuous, the 'great leap forward' in political maturity comes at about nine years of age. Political views were influenced primarily by the views of childrens' parents or friends, but the development itself was not speeded or retarded by previous education or by academic ability at this sort of age.

The team recommended a book called 'Political Change in Britain' by Butler and Stokes, and thanked Mr. R.L. Tames for his assistance and enthusiastic interest.

D.M.T.

German Exchange

Date: 10th October, 1969
Scene: Victoria Station, London.

It was 11.00 hours and the boat train to Dover left Platform 7 carrying, among others, 6 schoolboys and a master. The master was Mr. Browning and the boys were the Habs. boys going to spend 8 weeks in Frankfurt-am-Main with German families. 13 hours and 495 foggy miles later, the train drew up at the station. We were met by the Headmaster of the school where we would be going and our hosts. After a short period of guessing 'who was whose', we were introduced and left for a long rest - or so we though!

Later that morning we were dragged out of bed and told we had an interview with the Headmaster. We had, of course, to oblige and contrary to our expectations, we found that the school was clean, modern, and although small, very pleasant.

The next eight weeks were occupied with school. The school was mixed, as are most German schools. On most days school began at 8 a.m. and ran until 1 p.m. although on some days there was school after lunch as well. At weekends we went out to places like Heidelberg, Coblenz and the Taunus Forest with our host families.

Soon December came and with it the call of England to return. We were all sorry to leave the families; but we knew that in a few weeks' time we would have the pleasure of our partners' company again.

In conclusion, I must thank Messrs. Browning and Bunker who gave up so much time to ensure our safety en route, and Herr Schroeder for arranging things so efficiently at the German end.

John Nutall

a german view. .

Arriving at Victoria Station after a long and tiring journey, during which however none of us was seasick, we met our exchange-partners on the platform. They took us home, where we immediately fell asleep. We spent the first few days getting used to English customs and currency. Indeed, none of us can yet understand why the English drive on the wrong side of the road, and we are only just beginning to realise the many advantages of being able to divide the Pound into two, three, four, five, six, eight, ten, twelve, fifteen, sixteen, twenty, twenty-four, thirty, forty, forty-eight, sixty, eighty or a hundred and twenty equal parts.

A few days later we went to Haberdashers' for the first time, where we were immediately impressed by the size of the grounds. Our school in Germany is located in a compactly designed building in the centre of town. The morning-assembly was a new idea to all of us, and we think it is an excellent way to keep the school informed of important events. A few minutes later, in our first lesson we discovered to our delight the very high standard of language-teaching here, and, later on, the lunch-hour held a very pleasant surprise for us; in fact we can see no reason for the common belief that the lunches were poisoned!

We were taken, in the next week, to some of your debates where we heard the English language used as it was probably intended to be used, particularly by the Russells team, who for some reason unkown to us did not win the competition. This high standard gives us something to aim at in our everyday learning.

All of us were enthusiastic about the large number of school-societies and inter-house competitions here at Haberdashers'. This system has no parallel in Germany. .

On Field Day we had an interesting and informative trip to Westminster Abbey, The Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square and Downing Street, and on other occasions we visited Windsor Castle, The Tower of London, The Cutty Sark, Buckingham Palace, Scotland Yard, the Science Museum, the Post Office Tower and many other places of cultural, historical and touristic interest.

We returned to Germany after eight short weeks on the exchange, which we shall certainly recommend to all our colleagues, feeling that we had learnt something of the English language, heritage and culture, and we hope that the impressions we have gained in England, and those we have left behind here, will contribute in some way towards promoting a spirit of friendship and understanding between our two countries.

TILMANN HABERMAS (GOETHE GYMNASIUM)
Frankfurt-am-Main.

Business Game

This year the School competed, with about 250 other schools from all over England, in the Institute of Chartered Accountants' 'Business Game'. In this knock-out contest, schools competed against each other in groups of three. In a computer-simulated world of big business each board of directors controlled a firm which produced an unknown and uniform commodity. They had to decide on pricing policies, in 'home', 'export', and 'international' markets, on the firm's level of production and on its future investment.

Having been successful in winning the first two rounds of the game, the Haberdashers' team launched forth into the quarter-finals (last 27) with a visible air of self-confidence. This was soon shattered. Leading at the third by a cool £100,000, we failed to raise prices at a rapid enough rate to cope with the expanding market, and were overtaken by King Edward VII School, Lancaster who went on to win the round.

All participants found the game interesting, instructive and enjoyable – even (perhaps especially) in the heated debates and exchanges which arose. We have learnt much from our mistakes and hope that the School will put forward another team next year.

Special thanks are due to Mr. Snook for so ably managing all the paperwork at our end. Also to Pete Rebak for the loan of one house, to Bernie Eder for being such an efficient telephone boy, and to Dave Shear, our managing director and mathematical genius. Commiserations on a lost £5 go to Pauline – we were flattered by her confident flutter! M.J.G.

Those taking part:

Dave Shear, Joel Newmail, Bernie Eder, Pete Rebak, David Blueman, Robert Brodie, Stephen Booth, Richard Swain, Phil Nisbett, Julian Charles, Mike Gordon.

The Massacre of the Innocents

HOUSES

CALVERTS

So far this year, in my opinion, Calverts has undergone a basic improvement in minimum standards, all round. The attitude of apathy to all House events is slowly disappearing in the senior school, while in the lower school enthusiasm for participation is forever increasing.

On the sports side, this year, Calverts has, on the whole, improved its position In the Senior Cross Country, with a complete lack of any semi-professional talent, we zoomed up from 5th to 4th place. In the House rugby we also improved our position in the seniors', by one place to 5th.

As last year, our greatest sporting success has come from swimming. We came second in the standards competition being very narrowly beaten by Russells. However, in the House Gala we came out on top, winning all but two of the individual cups and all but one of the team trophies - and even then we came second.

This success is due to the fact that everyone in the House was always willing to demonstrate their swimming talents, resulting in the selection of the strongest team possible. Also, for the second year in a row Calverts won the House water-polo competition, utterly defeating Hendersons in the final, due to the brilliant talents of Phil Allard, Mick Masters and Pete Saxon and the unforgettable goal keeping of 'Podge' Reiss.

But the House is not just one of brawn and brute force; our debating team, Jeremy Stone and Peter Beales, also achieved a verbal victory, in the House Debating Competition.

The competitive future looks extremely healthy for Calverts.

Finally, I'd like to thank Mr. Hickman and Mr. Carlton as well as the rest of the Calvert's House staff for their invaluable contributions to the running of the House and their keen interest and support for all house activities.

I'd also like to thank our dinner-ladies, Sheila and Floss, for their perseverance and patience at lunch times. It is mainly through their efforts that lunchtime in Calverts is such an interesting and popular event.

P.W. Newby : House Captain

JOBLINGS

After winning the Crossman and Dunton shields in the 1968-9 academic year, Joblings' performance this term in the various competitions has suffered somewhat of a setback.

The Winter term, with only one major event (the Rugby tournament), was fairly profitable for us, resulting in a third place. We were also well placed in the Junior and Senior work and conduct. It seemed that we might be in for another good year!

This year's spring term has been very short and the swimming standards competition lasted effectively for only three weeks. Joblings came third, more by good luck than judgement, for like the other houses (except Russells, who won) we were taken by surprise because of the brevity of the affair.

The gala itself came ominously soon after half term and, as expected, we did not excel ourselves: we came fifth in the major Dodd cup. But Joblings did have a competitor for each event, and we came away with a cup for the Colts' relay, thanks mainly to the younger Gordon. Thanks are also due to his elder brother, Michael Gordon, for captaining our swimming team and our water polo team (which went down in the first round) and for his work in assembling them from a generally mediocre selection of swimmers.

In cross-country we put in some very good performances from the first to the fourth forms, gaining two team firsts and two team seconds. Unhappily the senior team gave a very bad account of themselves (coming sixth), which may cost us the cup.

We would undoubtedly have done well in the basketball and hockey competations due to take place this term, but with the gym out of action both now seem in jeopardy. We should however, do well in the Fives competition, which is held just before Easter.

After a rather chequered term Joblings must look forward to the summer and especially the athletics. Here our good House spirit and the standard competition, which gives every boy a chance to take an active part and win some points however slow he is, should stand us in good stead and make us a force to be reckoned with in every event.

I would finally like to extend my thanks to Mr. Browning for his support in all aspects of House affairs and his expert guidance - which extends to the most junior among us, either directly or through his now famous notices, which are not only read by us but also at some time by most boys in the school.

P. Allan Humphr's : House Captain

HENDERSONS

As always in the Easter Term, there are a large number of activities going on, and precious little time to fit them in. It is indeed a wonder that the house manages to field a team in each sport, for the same names appear on the team notices every time. If a few more people were to read notices, and turn up at training sessions, the house would enjoy a great deal more success

We must not, however, be despondent, for in same fields we have done particularly well. Here I would like to thank Nigel Cox for captaining our Water Polo team to the final, where we lost, by no means ignominiously, to Calverts.

Cross-country has also been our strong point this term. We came 1st in the Littlefield Cup, winning by 30 points by averaging second place in the three counting events and 3rd in the Junior events. I would like to congratulate all those who ran in those competitions.

In the Swimming Gala, the house managed 3rd in both the Thomas Amo, and Dodd Cups, and came 1st in the Junior competition, which augurs well for the future.

At this point I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the house in any way, especially the House Prefects and those who were in house teams. My thanks also to Michael Brand, who does a great deal to nurture house spirit.

Finally, I should like to thank Mr. Sanderson for his unfailing support at whatever obscure venue it may take place.

Jeremy Jackman : House Recorder

MEADOWS

'Ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for ... me!'

The time has come for me to perform one of the less enviable tasks that a house captain inherits along with his office. It seems to me that a long line of my fore-runners have begun their house-reports with an attack, often lucid, seldom helpful and always lengthy, on the house system. I will thus break a tradition which has become as insoluble a part of the system it seeks to destroy as the system itself and will not speak of the bad things in the house system but only of the good.

In a school as big as Haberdashers', communication is the biggest problem. The house system as a form of communication, in which boys of different ages and different academic interests are brought together and given a purpose in common, is a valuable and wholly desirable thing.

House competition has, in the past, been criticised as being the domain only of the sportsmen. This criticism must be considered unfair as just this term some of the most 'bloody battles' for house points have been in the form of debates, chess and a rubber or two of bridge. Other competitions which have taken place since the last report include rugby, swimming, water-polo, cross-country and fives. In all of these Meadows has emerged neither distinguished nor dishonoured.

Unfortunately, what little success the house has met with, in the sporting field, has not been the honest toil of the whole house but rather the unceasing and versatile efforts of the hard-core. For their presence at the 'very thick of it' I would like to thank Page and Mylam.

Academically Meadows' record is very much more impressive. In the lower school work and conduct shield we came third, and in the upper school shield first. Due to the exceptional results the upper school achieved we also held first place in the overall competition.

Finally I would like to voice the thanks of the whole house for the efforts T.E.C. has made on our behalves.

T.J. Ind : House Captain

STROUTS

Few can deny that the House system is an effective way of breaking down the huge impersonal mass of 1,000 boys by providing some kind of personal unit and this is surely its main objective. But as the term progresses the fact emerges that the house is regarded by the majority as a place to grab a lunch and antagonise a few seating sub-prefects.

To counteract this negative policy held by so many, all kinds of functions have been introduced on a house basis, from chess to cross country. Everybody has a change to participate in something and this is surely the second objective of the House system. Yet in all the activities in which Strouts have so far been successful, victory has been due to a few individuals who get glory enough within the school system.

Sportswise Strouts have not quite recovered from winning the Rugby competition last term. In Cross Country the results were rather disappointing:-

1st forms:	*3rd*	*3rd forms:*	*6th*
2nd forms:	*4th*	*4th forms:*	*4th*
		Seniors:	*1st*

In the swimming and water-polo mediocre results were also obtained. In the former we came 5th and 6th in both Senior and Junior sections and last in the Dodd Cup. In the latter we were beaten in the first round by Meadows. Congratulations to Sheppard and Tarry for coming 1st and 2nd respectively in their races.

However we have the Hockey, Basketball, Chess and Fives competitions to come, in all four of which we hope to do well.

Thanks to Tansvell and Deeprose for organising the Cross Country and Swimming teams: both very difficult jobs to do. Thanks also to Hassan who has been an extremely efficient Vice-Captain and Templer as House Recorder. Lastly my thanks go to Mr Dodds and Mr. Wood for their support and enthusiasm.

RUSSELLS

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches" – which is why anyone wanting to know why we didn't come first in the Swimming Gala, Cross-Country or Debating ought to be pleased if not yet content with the very creditable achievements in all of these. After a long standing run of 6th places a 1st in the Standards Competition proves that most people are still willing to have a go even if – like me – they don't go very far. Our results could have been even more impressive if the mainstay of our Water Polo team hadn't suffered an unfortunate difference of opinion in a position of certain victory.

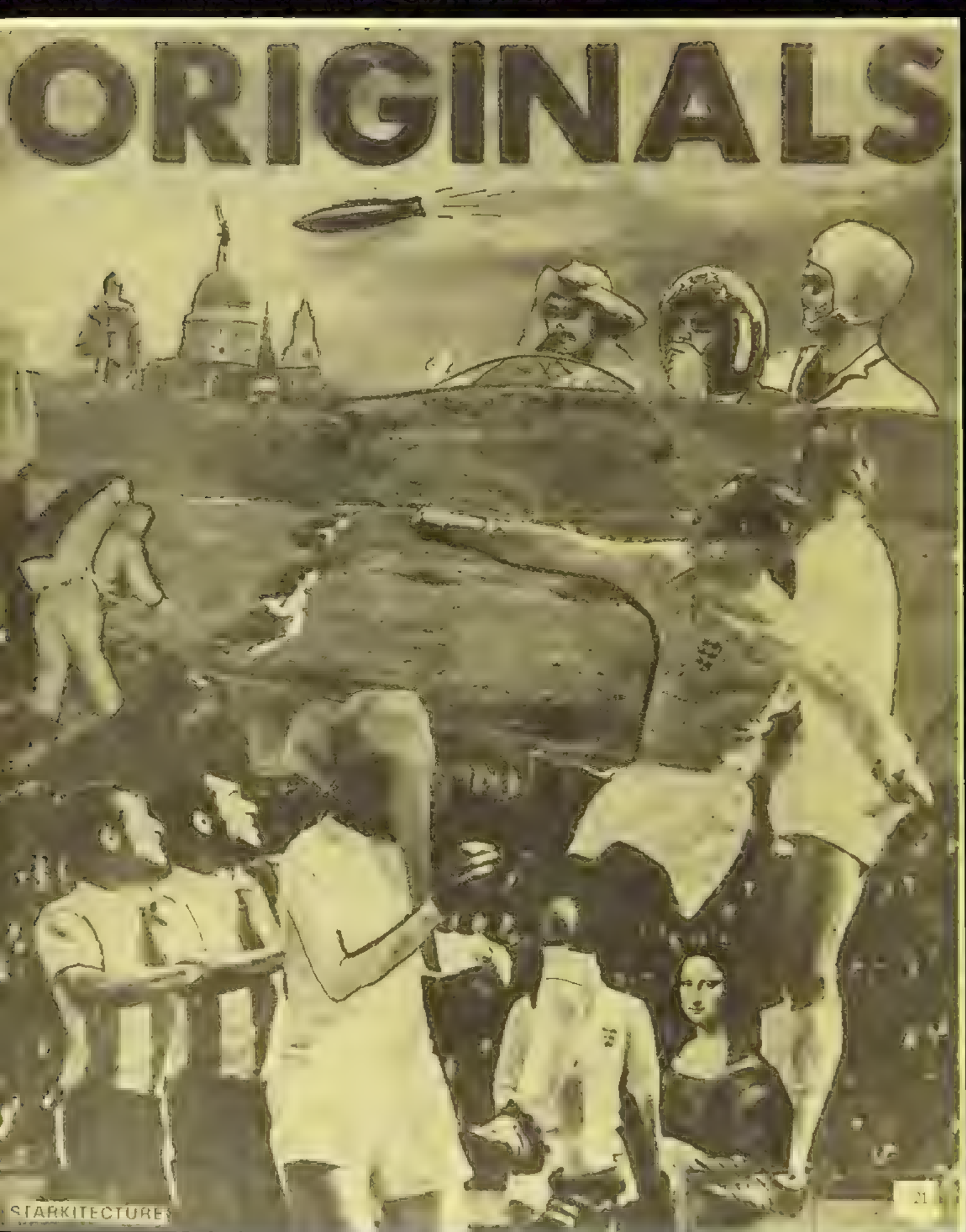
Having ruined my own wind for life I should like to thank all those from the 1st form upwards who took part in the various cross-country races. We may not all be Belgian National Champions but at least some of the bulldog spirit seems to have appeared through a dark haze of mud and snow.

Of conduct I can say very little, knowing as yet even less, except that the last few weeks has shown Russells with less impositions than other houses had detentions. This does not mean all our worst offenders have been expelled, nor yet does it mean they all get lines instead but is, at any rate, a trend worth following.

Finally, I should like to hope that the Junior boy who asked me in the corridor if Russells was the worst House has at least reversed his opinion – what's left of him.

S. Hardman
(House Captain)

ORIGINALS



A First Introduction into the State of Being

The indicator indicated left, as the Stanmore coach pulled into the station. We'll catch the nineteen minutes past - excuse me, I want to catch that bus; Avocado's hypothesis asserts that when...tonight's prep is geography?...Avogadro's...I told you so...This is your very own D.J. signing off for today...It's been nice meeting you...Stop pushing, do you want lines?...All right, let me through; I said let me through...Ouch.

The coach door opened and everybody piled out...every body...see you...yeh...bye. Quick, the train's in. Gallop down, de-down, de-down, de-down the stairs...kerplunk, Beat you. Quick, the light's green which train? Help I've lost my glove. Mind the doors! Hiss, closed doors. Phew!

Chug, chug. It was 4.19. Told you we'd get it, didn't I? It was three days before the end of term. Well, two days, if you don't count the last half-day; well, one day, if you don't count the Carol Service. Just one more day, after 15 long weeks.

Christmas term's always the longest yer know.
Yep.
This is the last time I'll be on this train. (It was both a statement, and a question, but his friend was indifferent. He looked at his shoes.)
Yep, this is the last time I'll be on this train...(Still no difference)...this term I mean.
Same here. (He sucked his gob-stopper. Slurp.)
Oh...so you won't be coming to school tomorrow. (He waited, his shoes were rather muddy)...either.
Oh, yes, but I'm going at three-twenty. (The green fields, fringed by the reddening grey of the sky, were very pretty. Lovely)
D'you wan a bit? (He proffered this grotesque twelve-inch spine of black liquorice)
Nope thanks...wan a lick? (He pulled out the slimy, shiny, gob-stopper from his mouth, and extended it to his friend)
No. That's not what I meant you see.
Oh. (Pause)
...You see I meant that I wouldn't get a train at all tomorrow, because I'm not coming to school tomorrow, because (but his friend had gone)...
I'm going on holiday. (He stood up, looking for his friend. He was down the other side of the carriage) But, I'm not going to tell you where (He shouted)
(The other slowly came back) Where what? (He said)...

Screech stop. Canons Park. Girlies, brown and green, green and brown; take your pick. Come on, get in here. Here are those soppy girls. Come on Mary, just pretend they're not there; they're only lickle boys. Hiss, doors closed.
The train chugged merrily along the long iron tracks that seemed to merge together, away into the distance. Christmas lights glistened from behind the curtained windows, where little boys and girls clapped hands, and play ball. Gleefully.
Happily. Lovelyly.
Nicely.
The little train chugged and chugged. Beautifullyly.
It was Christmas.
Boys looked out the window. The sky was greyish, like the inside of an inverted tea-cup. Serf o cate ing. God pulls the handle. Faster, faster. Chug, chug. Experience, though noon auctoritee, were in this world were right enogh for me...O, that this too too sullied... soiled?...flesh would thaw and resolve...itself...the individual, the particular, the ego, I...
eye...I...eye...
Faster, faster. 9% of the adult male population aged between 21 and 45 died...the National Income in the United Kingdom of...1844, 1855, 1866, clickety click. Today we will do vocab number three-hundred and fourty-four and a half...amo, amas, amat...Art is the attempt to reflect in concrete and communicative terms the intangible qualities of the mind and

spirit...What is it? Come on, come on...It should be on the tip of your tongue...mind walking down to the Police Station with me, if you don't mind, sir...Have the facts at your finger tips. Come on, come on...
After two years, I suppose one slip-up isn't bad; come on my IBM 300, what's happened to you.
Click.
A life-time.
Click.
It's damn, It's cold lonely very icy
very, very

H.B. Eder 6AM1

Mr. Brown.

Mr. Brown sat up in his armchair as if struck by a sudden idea, so wonderfully obvious that he could not think why he had not thought of it before. Slowly he uncrossed his tweedy legs and, taking a last nostalgic pull at his pipe, laid it carefully down on the seat behind him and strode carelessly across to the bureau on the other side of the room.

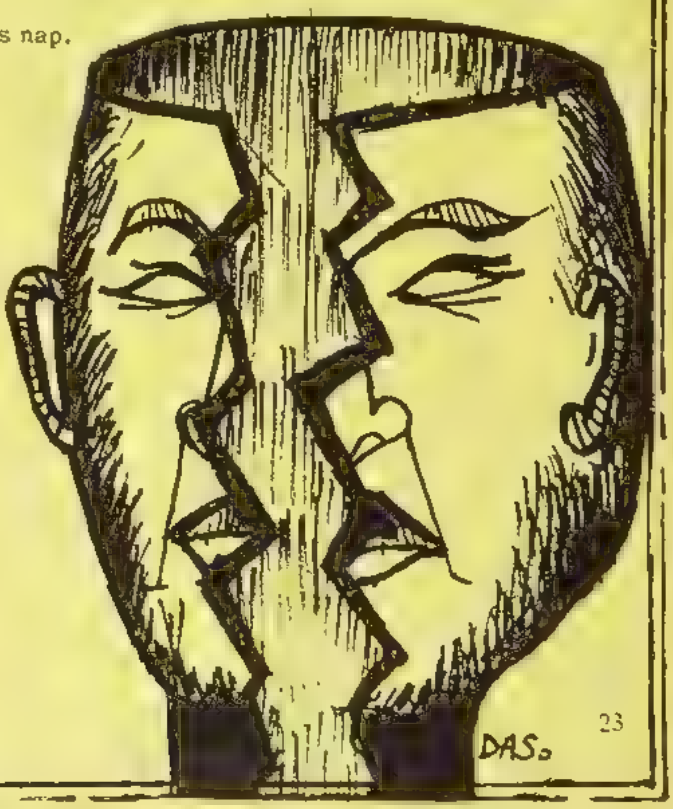
On it rested a large, pastel blue china vase exquisitely embellished and patterned in inlaid gold and silver, it was extremely valuable.

Mr. Brown gazed at this for a long time, as though banishing any last regrets from his mind, then he gingerly stretched out his arms and carefully lifted the vase from its appointed place, it was an extremely expensive vase.

As though lost in thought, Mr. Brown slowly spread the fingers of each hand one by one, until only his forefingers were touching the precious object. Then he spread those, and the vase sped to the floor, watched all the way by Mr. Brown's inquiring eyes, until it smashed into a thousand pieces on the marble below.

Mr. Brown turned back towards his chair, his pipe and his nap.

P.T. Breuer 2^{15}



TALKING SKYLARK BLUES

(or how I was SIX A MODERN ONE'D into submission)

G / B7 / E / E7 / A7 / D / G / / /
1.) I was writing a little poem, you know, words and stuff that rhymes
G / B7 / E / E7 / A / A7 / D7 / / /
When along comes the man from Skylark, tells me I'm wasting my time,
G / / / G7 / / /
He says "you mean to say, you've never heard
C / / / F# / / /
Of leavin' out every second word?"
C / F# / G / E / A7 / D7 / G / / /
I said "well, I guess that's a bit of bad news, "I've got them Skylark Blues

(G, B7, E, E7, A7, D, G, D7 ....)

2.) I was drawing a little picture, trees and flowers and stuff
when the man from Skylark comes and says "I really have seen enough,
You've got to draw it upside down and inside out
For God's sake, don't let anyone know, what it's all about."
I said "Well, I don't really understand your views"; I've got the Skylark Blues.

3.) 'I was writin' a little song,' bout love and women, you know
When the man from Skylark says "we gave that up long ago
Where're your connotations of psyche and ultimate being?"
I mumbled "well, I don't quite understand what you mean."
You know, I can't do nothin' but lose, I've got those Skylark Blues.

4.) Now I wrote a little story, tryin' to get it in the book,
But the man from Skylark, well he, don't even take a second look,
He says "well you've got to write at least half in French,
Why some of this stuff even makes sense!"
All I can say is it's always bad news, with them old Skylark Blues,
F♯ F E A7 / D7 / G D7 G7
I mean it, them mean old Skylark Blues.

THE BUS CONDUCTOR

It all started when the mouthpiece of my trumpet got stuck. Therefore my trumpet gained a few inches making it impossible to fit in the trumpet case. My mum was right; the only thing for it was to put the trumpet in my duffle bag.

I was on my way home on the 84 bus to Arnos Grove and I had paid my eightpenny fare. We were nearly at S.T.C. Standard Telephone Cables. It's the stop I dread everyday because a peaceful bus practically empty is turned into a jostling, bustling, hot, sticky, sweaty, crowded dump. Nearly all the people who work at S.T.C. are black. The bus conductor came up.

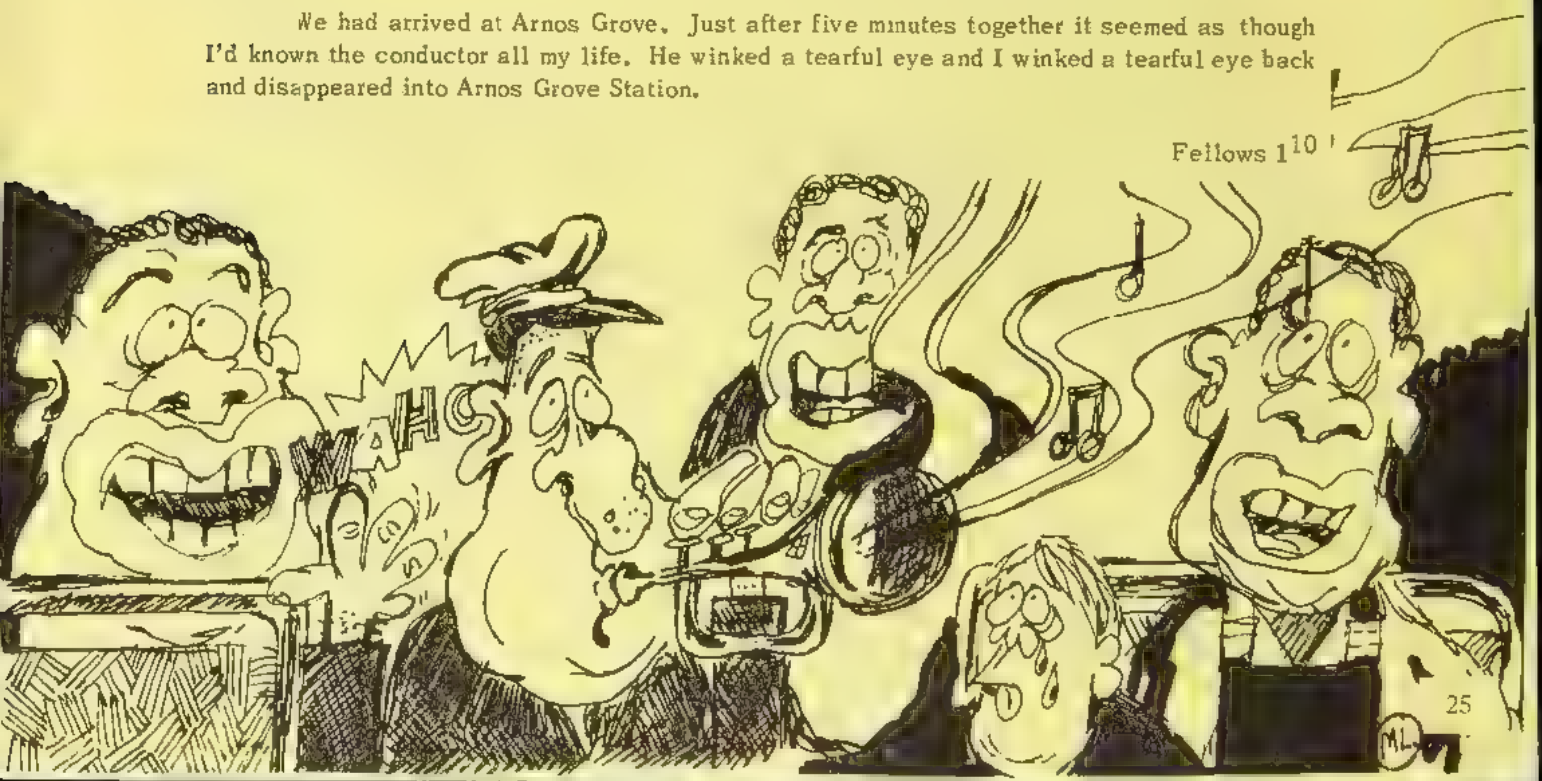
He wasn't fat but stout and long curly hair lay limply around his eyes. In fact, he was the last person I would expect to see as a bus conductor.

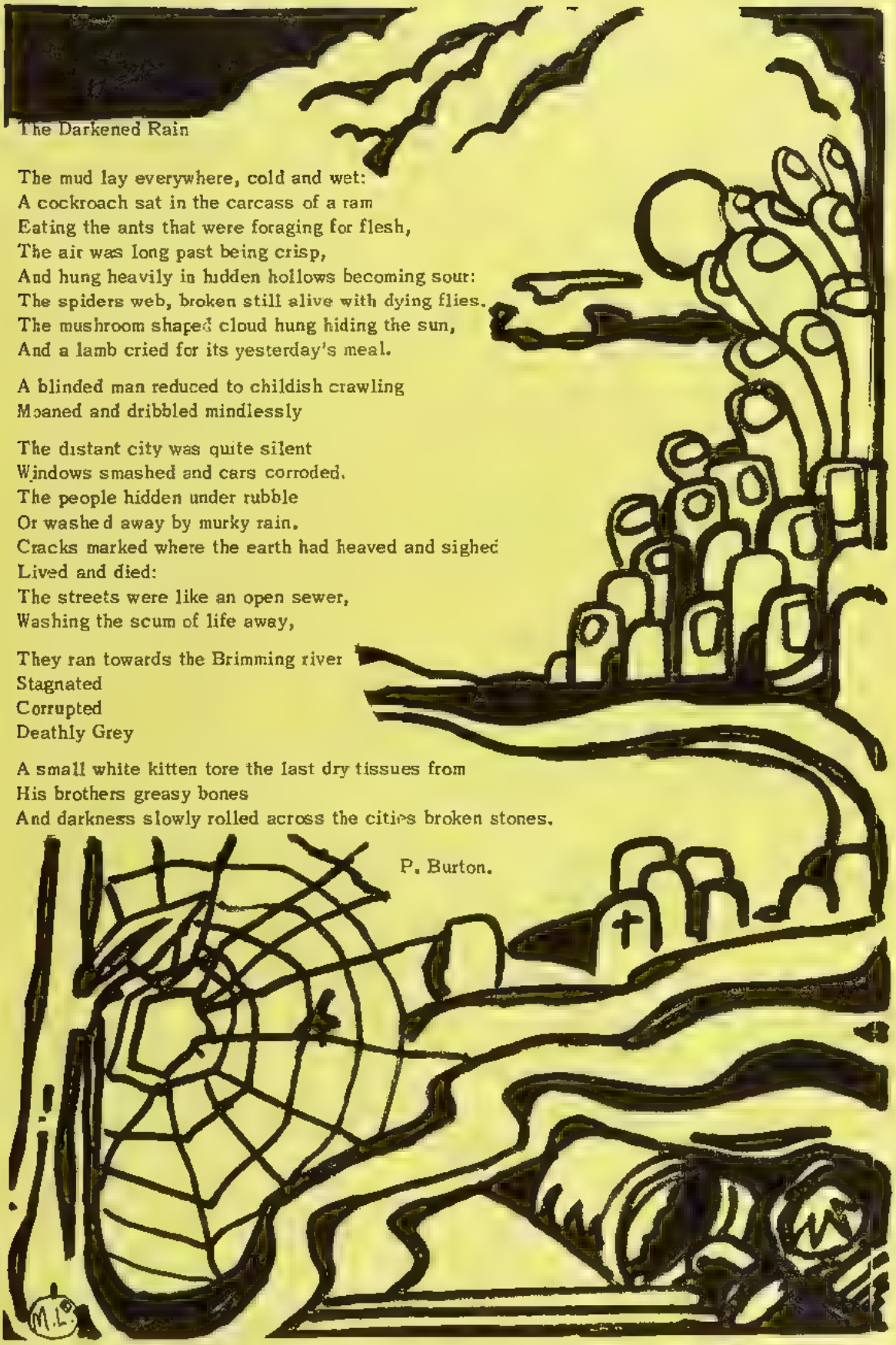
He started taking the fares but then he stopped when he saw the mouthpiece of my trumpet sticking out of the end of my duffle bag. He asked me what it was and I told him it was the end of my trumpet "Go on play a note" he said in a tantalising way "W-ell...er... I er don't" the conductor made an offer 'Look if I play it first will you play it afterwards'! Foolishly I agreed.

I hauled the trumpet out of the duffle bag and handed it to the conductor. He took a deep breath puffed his cheeks out, put his mouth to the mouthpiece and blew. A weird assortment of notes followed ranging from top A to bottom E. The negroes were in hysterics. Slapping their thighs and almost doubling up in laughter. Probably most of them had never seen a trumpet yet alone heard one.

Red and tired the conductor handed me my trumpet. My hot sticky hands grasped it. I was so overcome I could do no better than my friend the conductor. Huge rows of enormous white teeth mingled with tears of laughter were all I could see above the end of my trumpet. One of the things that stays in my mind from this incident is the huge negro sitting next to me. There isn't a funnier thing in the world than a six foot six negro who is bursting at the seams with laughter. Of course he probably thinks that there isn't a funnier thing than a scruffy schoolboy bright red and playing a trumpet. After I had finished playing I joined in laughing.

We had arrived at Arnos Grove. Just after five minutes together it seemed as though I'd known the conductor all my life. He winked a tearful eye and I winked a tearful eye back and disappeared into Arnos Grove Station.





The Darkened Rain

The mud lay everywhere, cold and wet:
A cockroach sat in the carcass of a ram
Eating the ants that were foraging for flesh,
The air was long past being crisp,
And hung heavily in hidden hollows becoming sour:
The spiders web, broken still alive with dying flies.
The mushroom shaped cloud hung hiding the sun,
And a lamb cried for its yesterday's meal.

A blinded man reduced to childish crawling
Moaned and dribbled mindlessly

The distant city was quite silent
Windows smashed and cars corroded.
The people hidden under rubble
Or washed away by murky rain.
Cracks marked where the earth had heaved and sighed
Lived and died:
The streets were like an open sewer,
Washing the scum of life away,

They ran towards the Brimming river
Stagnated
Corrupted
Deathly Grey

A small white kitten tore the last dry tissues from
His brothers greasy bones
And darkness slowly rolled across the cities broken stones.

P. Burton.

Fire'

It is autumn,
The nights darken earlier,
The apples drop,
The leaves fall off half-bare trees,
And the bonfires burn -
Their autumn smell joins the air with a greyish smoke
And you cough as it envelops you.

But the children don't care
They stand near
And poke sticks in the fire,
Watching them as they glow,
Then they whirl them round their heads happily,
While the envious neighbours
Wish they could strip off their age
And be young again.

But sadly they know they cannot,
So they carry on raking the lawn
While the children play Indians.
And then, soon, the fire burns out.

Jonathan Cohen. 3.20.

Hack verse

O' Wretched youth, seeking rationale
Lured by Lib, Lab, Con and Welsh National,
Hear this verse, abandon realism,
Let Confusion's embers fire Idealism'
Heath and Wilson, Charybdis and Scylla,
Wisely steer the course, catch hold the tiller!
Their speech oft shines with sparkling quotes,
Wrecker's lights for floating votes.
Forgive, if one is found quite vexed
That politics leave the young perplex'd.
To them, parties differ only in name,
And political smiles seem much the same.
Who would not succumb to one man's lies,
If another's assaulted not his eyes?
Where Whigs with Whigs, with Tories' Tories strive
Honesty, Truth and Ethics must somehow still survive.
If one's senses one would retrieve,
He must have something to believe.
Revolution! the crowd cries "Red!"
But which system do they want instead?
"Anarchy! " THEY shout, we'll all unite,
Reject the Red, Blue and the White.
And who'll labour to prolong this system?
The reply? A quaintly nebulous "Them".
Amid this storm, Youth battles through
A period of misty political hue,
And at polling time there is no sign,
Of Noble Youth, caught hook and line,
(Admittedly, there are those few,
Who fidget in cafes while coffees stew,
Whose pink cheeks, flushed in battle
Spout invective and extremist prattle).
But among new voters, the greatest faction
Follows the maxim "Relax, man, take no action".
Rendered sick with trite slogans, they really would rather,
Let the whole deal rest with
Father.

R. B. Carter. 6A/M4.

The person who bolts up his doors to protect his most valuable property

Is locked up in his house, by himself, with his walls and his wealth for his company.

simon boswell

Broken Bottles

They lay in a heap,
An unsightly mess
A mass of sharp, jagged, edges
A range of mountain peaks
A sea of points
Glassy green,
Cold,
Hard,
Unfeeling.
Lying in a mass of splinters
They had been so tall,
So proud,
So elegant,
These scattered fragments
Now reduced to this misery.

C.M Hull
2/17

The Puppet

The puppet dances.
Kicks and Prances.
Whirls and Swirls,
And jumps and kicks.
Each string shaking,
Moving, taking
All the puppet's
Sudden movements.
All its parts
Are moving wildly
As it's lifeless form, clicks.

And then he stops
And all is quiet.
His little dance
Is over now.
He goes and bows,
He waves his hand.
He's off to see
Another land.
He walks off tired,
But well admired.
He now awaits another time.

David Phillips 2/17

I call him Grandpa for short and although he is now quite old he will always be ready to join in some fun. For example:- Once he took one of Nana's best china plates and tried to show us the trick of throwing a plate up into the air and catching it on the back of his hand. The result was, of course, that he ended picking up the pieces from the floor whilst being told off by Nana!

On the sporting side he belongs to a bowling club and has won many honours including captaining the men's side and winning a considerable number of cups and medals. He sometimes plays football with us and at half-term I crossed a ball for him. Whilst running in, he lost his glasses and landed on the grass with a bump! Luckily though, he wasn't hurt and when I picked him up I found that he was laughing madly and he wouldn't stop until about five minutes later! He also likes golf but doesn't play much now.

He retired about two months ago but he helps at the local library. I think he enjoys it for now he only works a few days a week. He says that a person of his energy needs to be occupied.

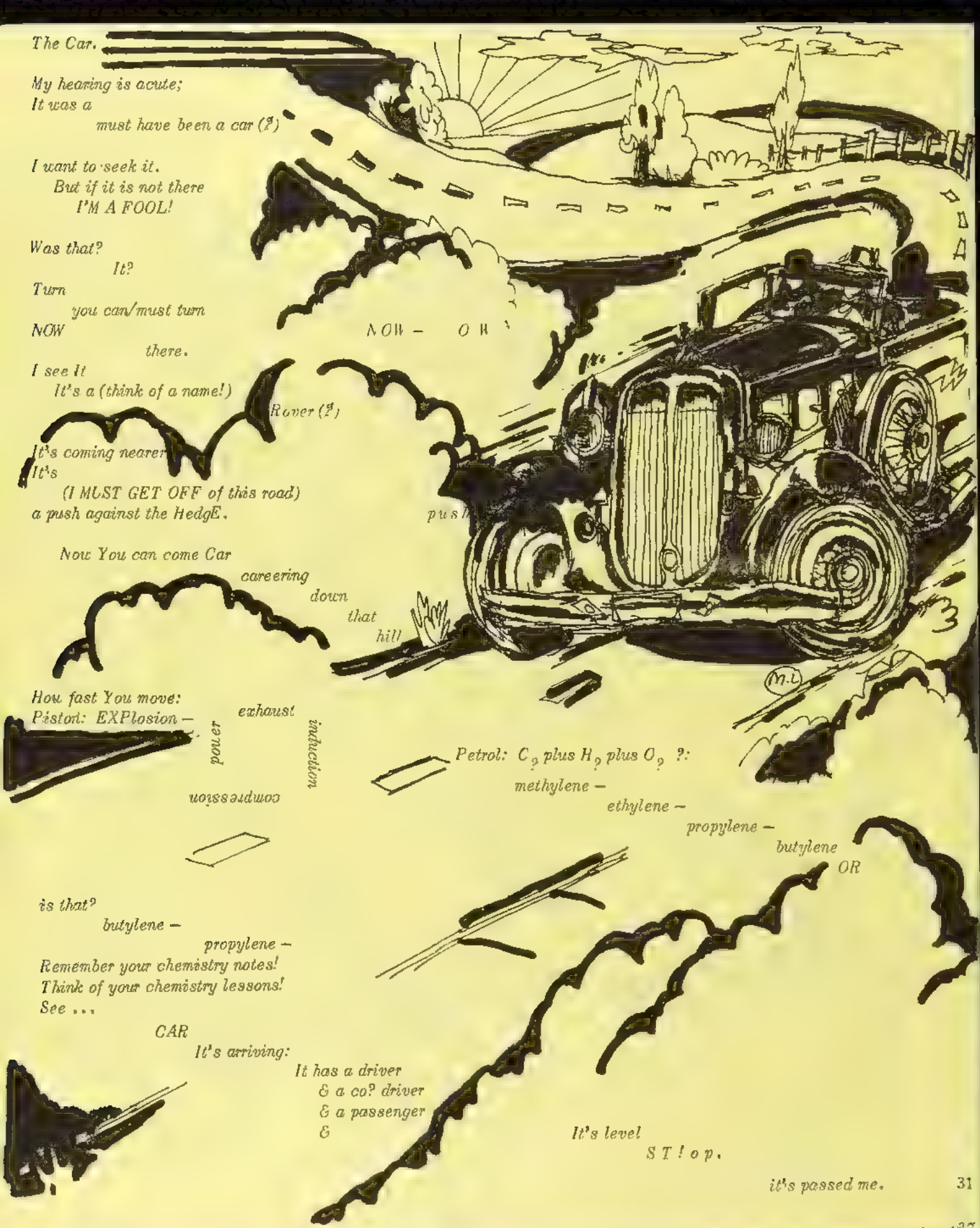
My Grandfather

J.P.G.L.

When my brother and I were small Nana and Grandpa sometimes came on holiday with us and we always had great fun, but there is one incident that I just can't forget. It was when we were on holiday at Westgate and he had spent the afternoon with us collecting shrimps, crabs and other marine life. We filled a bucket with small crabs and took them home to show Nana. As we wanted to keep them we left them in the kitchen. It so happened that that evening Nana was sitting in the lounge on her own when she heard a scuttling sound. She went into the kitchen and found a small army of crabs marching across the floor! She was horrified and poor Grandpa had to pick the crabs up and return them to the sea.

Another time he took us all out in a motor-boat. Of course, he got up to mischief for as we returned to the boat yard he manoeuvered close to another boat and rammed it. Turning to Nana who was sitting in the back of the boat he remarked "It's all your fault!" much to Nana's indignation! Luckily no damage was done but I laughed about it all of the way home.

As you can guess we are very fond of our Grandpa. My mother says that he spoils us outrageously and Nana says he will never grow up but I wouldn't have him any other way.


The Car.
My hearing is acute;
It was a
must have been a car (?)
I want to seek it.
But if it is not there
I'M A FOOL!
Was that?
It?
Turn
you can/must turn
NOW
there.
I see It
It's a (think of a name!)
Rover (?)
It's coming nearer
It's
(I MUST GET OFF of this road)
a push against the HedgE.
NOW – O H
push
Now You can come Car
careering
down
that
hill
How fast You move:
Piston: EXPlosion –
exhaust
induction
compression
power
Petrol: C_2 plus H_2 plus O_2 ?:
methylene –
ethylene –
propylene –
butylene
OR
is that?
butylene –
propylene –
Remember your chemistry notes!
Think of your chemistry lessons!
See ...
CAR
It's arriving:
It has a driver
& a co? driver
& a passenger
&
It's level
S T ! o p.
it's passed me.
M.L

P. Baker 4[27]

ILLUSTRATION OF BLAKE'S "THE SICK ROSE" © DICK TILLEY

Michele

Well acquainted with your beauty,
I see your image returned to me
In a thousand empty
Eye-liner tubes. I see,
Across the dressing table,

Your perfect face, (so self-assured),
Is rock steady, as you quickly coat it,
Smooth it, spray it,
Pat it oh-so-gently
With your silky paws.

And after you have been self-confessed,
Dressed in your nicest moonlight dress,
Hair so wholesomely re-set,
Is there really that much left
Within you ?

Danny Friedman 6BM2

Solitude

The grass flattened as I lay down, then I heard a crunching sound under me, and I got up again throwing a crushed white cup containing the dried and sticky remnants of an orange drink. I lay down again, and murmuring "Litter bugs" I looked up to Kenwood where I had dropped many a sweet paper when walking through the woods.

The sun had not yet risen above the tall trees, and as I lay there I thought of why I had come to the long dewy grass. To get away from the noise of people talking, to listen to the twitching stillness of the trees up the hill by Kenwood,, and to feel the coarse swishing of the grass around my legs on this warm morning.

The position where I lay was in a dip, my favourite spot, for the grass is longest here, and when the sun rises above the trees the heat is caught and reflected off the shining grass.

Every day I would see an old couple slowly walk up the gravelly hill from the Nettle Ponds and sit down on a bench inscribed "in loving memory of William A. Kenson who loved Kenwood and spent many a happy morning here 1832–1907". The couple had gone there every fine morning to sit on the bench, I would never see one of them walking there alone, they were always together. They were like brother and sister in their soft quiet faces, she had greyish white hair, and his hair was white. From where they sat, upon the old wooden bench they saw over the dip and through the drooping willows onto a pond tickled by the lowest leaves, and making reflections swoop in gentle waves across the reedy water. Occasionally a little bird would peck at the bank and stretch a worm in half, then disappear in a tree, and the half-worm would smear back into the earth again.

The old couple would then get up and, arm in arm slowly walk back down the path again, and disappear over a small bridge spanning a stream that drys up during the late summer.

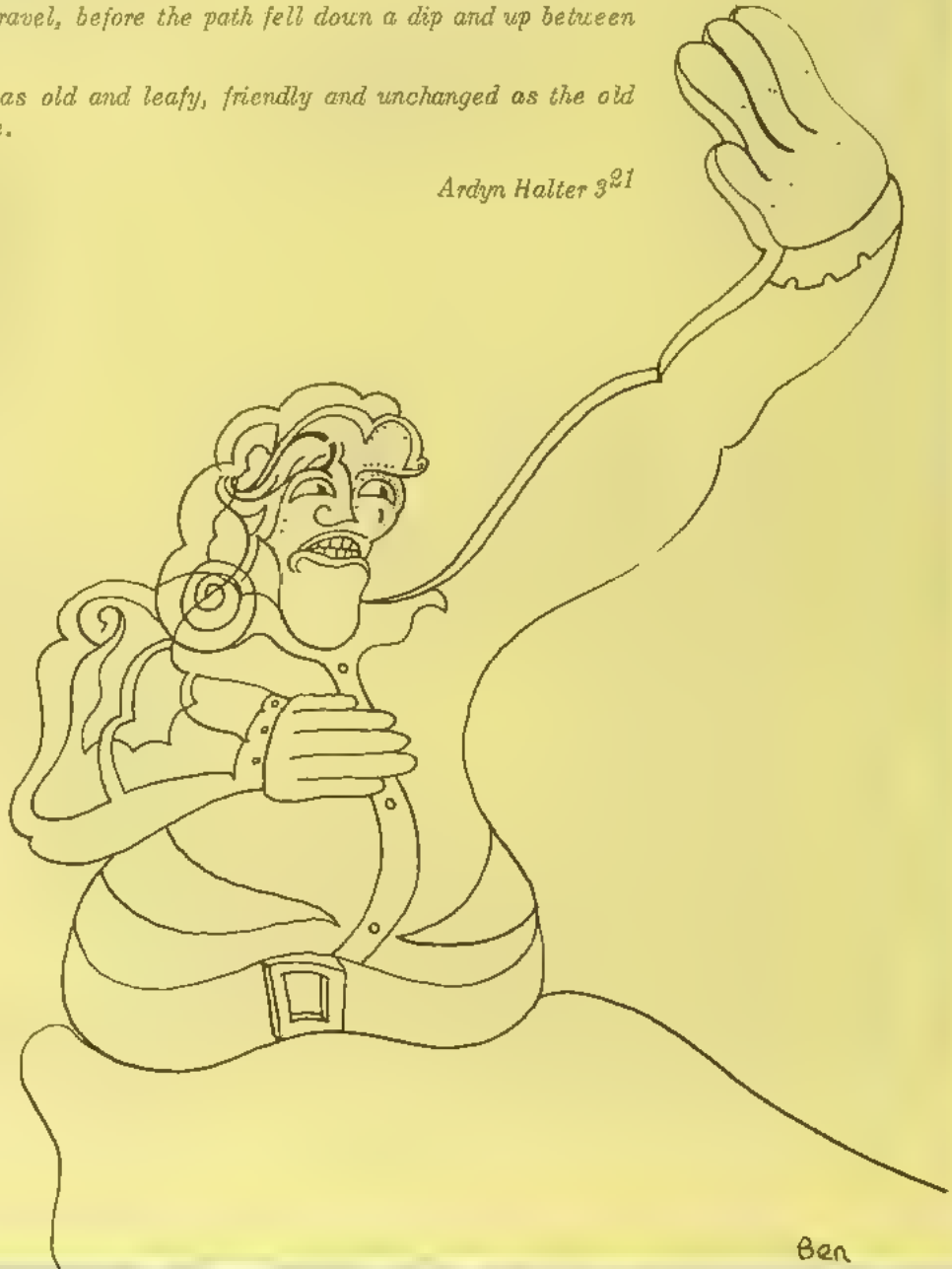
I got up and walked up to Kenwood past the sign stating that "No children beneath the age of 15 are allowed within the woods". My feet crunched over the gravel path as I entered the woods. The sun still shone down on me, and some wide open flowers. I walked on into the shadows of the wood in a criss-cross pattern blotching my clothes with light. The trees swayed their boughs above me, leafy and gleaming green in the sunlight. My shadow fell speckled on the twiggy gravel, before the path fell down a dip and up between the towering trees into the sunlight.

This was not loneliness, it was old and leafy, friendly and unchanged as the old couple always there, the same, solitude.

Ardyn Halter 3[21]

A Cello

Thin
And slender
Also
Beautiful
The
Scroll
Is
Like
A
Curled coil of rope
A finger bound jet black
Ebony, so fine and Majestic
Yet the bottom is snow
White with rosin
Fresh from the
Sea. The bridge of
Teak, and yet so fragile
Like a soft webbing of lace.
The 'f' holes are stretched
And curved to utmost
Beauty. The strings so
Hard and yet so
Full of gaiety and
Joyfulness
And last
The
S
P
I
K
E



'MARLENE' BY MICKEY HALLSTRÖM

SOCIETIES

Bridge

In the last year the Bridge Club has turned out to be one of the most versatile societies in the school, providing great entertainment and enjoyment for those playing for the team. Last term's results were erratic, but probably would have been better, but for the unfortunate absence of our first pair, John Frenkel and Chris Newbold. The four matches won were against Camden Girls School (twice), Harrow County and Watford G.S. for Girls; and those lost against City of London and Christ College. Although we feel the Bridge Club is improving in popularity in the school (nationally its popularity is rising at a great rate) we wish it to go even further in the future, and hope that the Club's matches will be regarded with more esteem than in the past. This can only be achieved by an increase in membership with team selection possible for anyone good enough - if you look at our fixture list you will see that this is well worth while!

The team also took part in the Herts. Knock-Out Cup for the Clarke Trophy and suffered diabolical defeat unluckily in the semi-final. Our thanks to Mr. Bennett for his help and efficiency. He assures us that he now knows where Hillside School is!

TEAM: Chris Newbold, John Frenkel, Gerry Seal, Phil Allard, Greg Davis, Richard Feldman, John Campbell, Clive Palmer.

P.S. Our thanks go to Jane, Janice, Jenny and Marion for their services.

Christian Union

The usual length of the Autumn Term provided the opportunity for a wide variety of meetings, which included speakers from outside and within the school, as well as recorded talks.

We opened with a talk by Mr. Bennett on 'Jehovah's Witnesses', which attracted a large audience. This was followed later in the term by 'Humanism. How far from the Kingdom?' a talk in which Mr. Lurie brought out, as well as the essential differences, the many points of agreement between ideal Humanism and Christianity. This was followed by David Winter talking on 'Christianity and Communism', which, in view of the reputation of the speaker, and the topicality of the subject attracted a disappointingly small audience. Among the other meetings were an authology of Christian Poetry, and a programme of live and recorded Gospel music arranged by Laurie Haynes.

Among the meetings so far in the Spring Term have been talks by David Jones and Charles Hopping, the former on the Twentieth Century English Translations of the Bible and the latter a review of three recent Christian books.

The main meeting of the term has been the Czech film "Jan Hur" which, although not shown after school as planned, due to the snow, we were able to show on a Wednesday afternoon to a large audience who were unable to do Games for the same reason.

During both terms, we have maintained the Friday lunch-time prayer meetings and we are glad to see increased numbers there.

We would once again stress that anyone is welcome to attend the meetings (held on Mondays at 1.15 in P.1 (Rm 40)) and that their interest is not restricted to Christians. In particular, we would be glad to see more members of the Middle School supplementing our largely Sixth form audiences.

In conclusion, may I extend my thanks to Mr. Cheyney, and to all who help in any way with the organisation and running of the Christian Union.

David Williams

Canoe

To start this report at the most up-to-date point, and on a very optimistic note, I am glad to say the school has generously given us a grant to buy two boats: a Jaycee Wildcat, and a Mendesta Coursier. These two boats will be valuable assets to the club, and can and will be used in the pool for training purposes. Membership of the club fluctuates at the moment, the regulars canoeing every Friday evening being the backbone of the Club. Even so, the response for trips is large: when we opened the list for the Easter trip, no less than twenty three people applied.

No regular canoeist can fail to notice that we have undergone a change in ownership: we are glad to welcome Mr. R. Smith as our Master in charge. He has taken over the reins from Mr. John Dudderidge, whose activity and enthusiasm the Club will miss greatly, although I am sure his advice will often be sought after. Mr. Smith has been here for less than a year, and we have a re-organised club hut; two new boats on order, and an Easter Trip organised. Thus we are in no danger of collapse, as was feared when we heard of Mr. Dudderidge's move!

Our Slalom gates are now working again, and perhaps some of the promising fourth and fifth form talent in evidence at the moment will use these facilities conscientiously and enter some novice slaloms in the new season.

I would like to thank Dave Brief whose thorough and practical knowledge is always valuable (when intelligible), and of course Mr. Smith, who has accepted the load, and is powering along behind our interests.

Jeremy Sanders - Chairman

Debating

The fortunes of the Debating Society always revolve in cycles; from apathy to enthusiasm to apathy, from success to failure to success. Which point on the cycle has been reached at present is, however, difficult to tell In terms of quantity, debates and audiences have been fairly numerous; in terms of quality the successes and failures have, to a large extent, cancelled each other out

From a slow start, after a large audience had supported Mr. Draper's defence of the Sprinkbok rugby demonstrations against Mr. Lurie's opposition and it had been decided that Winnie the Pooh did not, after all, hold the answers to all the world's problems, most time this year has been devoted to the inter-house debates. The competition was won by Calverts with Russells as runners-up and Hendersons third. Despite a somewhat disappointing first round, the final debate between Jeremy Stone and Peter Beales, and David Williams and Stephen Moss over whether the red flag better deserved being used as a duster displayed the art of debating at its most fluent and skilful.

On the external front, David Bleiman and David Templer repeated last year's success at St. Albans by persuading the audience not to cut off all sporting links with South Africa, bringing home a cup for their pains .... In the English Speaking Union competitions, however, the London team of Peter Beales, David Bleiman and Bob Sandall, and Herts. B team of David Brief, Dick Humphris and David Stark failed to repeat last year's victories, although David Holder, Toby Harris and Tony Page, who talked on Nationalism, were only narrowly defeated in the Herfordshire final. The society also reached the Herts. final of the Schools debating Association competition where Peter Beales and I proposed that you could only be happy when you have lost your ideals. And to end this compendium of results in a more long-distance note, our past-president, Alister McGregor succeeded in reaching the final of the 'Observer's universities' debating competition.

With the absence of Mr. Mole in America, his place was taken at the beginning of the year by Mr. Rowe, whose dedication and efficiency has been greatly appreciated, as have the heroic efforts of our President, Peter Beales (whose name seems to appear in this report more than is good for him). At which point we may safely commence our customary summer recess

John Keidan (Secretary)

Film

Last term, the Film Society made a sizeable profit, the first time in many years. With this, the films ordered for next term can be of a more luxurious sort than recent years, and it is hoped will provide an extremely attractive and entertaining programme to all the school.

The term's programme starts with a second world war film "Sink the Bismark" starring Kenneth More. James Stewart stars in the next film "The F.B.I. Story" which shows a horrifying view of the 1920's gangster period in the U.S.A. "Dr Strangelove" sees Peter Sellers in one of the funniest roles in his acting career. Comedy is also the theme of the next film "The Funniest Man in the World" which shows an extremely amusing look at the King of Comedy – Charles Chaplin. The year's programme ends with one of the most famous 2nd World War films "The Colditz Story".

Next term also sees a complete reshuffle in the management of the Film Society. With Mr. Tames' departure the Film Society welcomes back Mr. Mole from America as its patron. Andrew Goudie and Andrew Clements helped by Andrew Lane will constitute the new Committee and all enquiries should be addressed to them. The membership remains at the ridiculously low price at 6/- and entry for one film 2/6d, and with this it is hoped to better even last term's record attendance of over 200, both for "All Quiet on the Western Front", and "A Night in Casablanca".

Edward Green

M.S.S.

Gay Clive

Whilst flying home over the earthly purple shades of intellectual pea-soup, let us pause awhile to consider the incantations and cosmic achievements of the M.S.S. during this glorious era. With pyrotechnic sacrifice and go-go dancers, progress has been little checked. We thank Mr. Burgess for his tolerance towards the misguided few, and his encouragement in general.

The Relating Society has enjoyed certain success, which together with that of the ethnic Record Club, offsets liberally the somewhat recessive nature of the Drama Group. However on some occasions, debates have been slightly tainted by rowdiness and flippancy, not from the floor, but amongst the speakers themselves, who are generally hard to come by anyway. This, and the lack of support for the Drama Group is indictive that the M.S.S. is still regarded, by most, as primarily a Spectator sport.

Gay Clive has helped immeasurably in whipping up support from the sweating, battered ranks of the proletariat, rising often to 500 in meetings in the C.L.T. His impeccable taste in contemporary sounds also deserves mention.

And so, we look forward to the summer term with a hope of overcoming with increased participation the annual torpor, with the possibility of a revue of some sort, and a visit to a bacon factory.

J.D. Francis
Secretary

Independent Folk

This academic year has seen the inauguration of a new society which fulfils a dual role as an "Underground" school society and an exclusive S.S.U. group, with the combined aim of raising money for charity by spontaneous charity performances to the London public, and providing entertainment for the elderly, the mentally and physically handicapped, and other deprived sections of the community.

Regular readers of the "... IN THE NIGHT" section of the S.S.U. noticeboard may have wished to know what the mysterious messages, frequently posted, signified. Now in the comfort of your very own "Skylark" these cryptic cyphers will be clarified.

The first project which has been achieved was the raising of twenty pounds for aid in Biafra. After a humorous misunderstanding involving a commitment of £700 to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the next project, already under way is the raising of funds to help with the mentally handicapped children's holiday to be held at Haberdashers' this summer.

As concerns "... In The Night's" second role, activities have included visits to the old people's Friendship Club in Belsize Park, The Hornsey Trust for Mentally Handicapped Children, The Sparrow's Herne Reception Centre and the Polio Club of East Finchley.

Thanks are due for the indispensable services of virtuosos Danny Friedman and David Weber, and their manager and hat-holder extraordinaire, Jonathan Blake.

Thanks are also due to Dr. Taylor, Mr. Barling, and Mr. Bunker without whose permission and guidance and allocation of S.S.U. time, and group would not have been possible, nor able to operate wherever the Underground reaches.

After a lusy Autumn term, this has been a quiet period. However with the advent of summer this looks like being a successful year and a fitting beginning to the group.

David Weber
Danny Friedman
Jonathan Blake

Model

This term must have been one of the most memorable in the history of this small but growing club. It was memorable as it was the one in which we received a grant from the headmaster which was big enough to get the club a new plane. The plane is a single channel radio controlled one and may be flown by any club member after school or during the lunch break.

Also being built is a 24" tug which is well advanced in construction. When this is finished, there is a kit of a 36" fishing schooner, a very attractive and impressive model. Schonn of the fourth form is designing us a radio controlled car: An 18" long, G.T. Racer.

Other club news is that the membership has risen to 25 despite the fact that we had to raise the entrance fee to 1/6d per term to help pay for the new plane, although this is not the highest membership we have ever had, it is enough to make the club a worthwhile proposition.

The following are the details of the new plane:
The Plane: A DAZZLER 48, 48" span foam filled wing kit, the Best.
The Engine: A second hand diesel E.N. Racer (2½ c.c.).
The Receiver: A Futala Relay (R.X.).
The Actuator: A Servo-Single Channel, rudder only self centering.

F. Johnson (Secretary)

Modern Language

'I am always sorry when any language is lost, because languages are the pedigree of nations'. So said Dr. Johnson in 1773, and indeed the prime aim of the Modern Language Society this term has been to sustain extra-mural interest throughout the school in the study of foreign languages

The term began with a talk on the Spanish poet Lorca, given by an Old Boy, which, by nature of its specialist appeal, attracted an audience of only six people, although an excellent talk. This was followed by a lecture whose promising title 'The French Novel' encouraged twenty people to attend. Unfortunately, these intrepid linguists were deluded when the lecture degenerated into a monologue about what the lecturer did with Mauriac during the Second World War.

The climax of the term was a showing of the colour film of Moliere's play 'Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme,' in October. It was superbly acted and very entertaining for the 200 people who saw it, from Haberdashers' and neighbouring schools. There followed a play reading with NLCS of 'Antigone', by Anouilh, which was also very successful, both from a linguistic and social point of view. The final meeting of the term was a highly original talk on the French Resistance, consisting of an account of the almost Hergean adventures of Madam Corneau, a former maquisarde who was parachuted into enemy-occupied France during the War.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to all the masters concerned with Modern Languages, and particularly Mr. Bunker for their invaluable help in ensuring the smooth running of the Society this term

Stuart Isaacs.

Mountaineering

At the beginning of the autumn term, Mr. Smith joined the school, and hardly had he arrived, than he started the club.

The first outing, in November, was a very successful trip by minibus to Birchen's Edge in the Peak District. For many of the 12 boys who took part, it was the first introduction to rock climbing.

The main activity, so far, has been the trip to North Wales at Christmas, for 5 days. Although the weather was, to nobody's surprise, very wet, some good mountain walking was done. Accommodation was provided by the Joplings, who kindly let us use their cottage at Dinorwic. 12 boys and Mr. Smith took part in this and all helped to make it a good social, as well as mountaineering occasion.

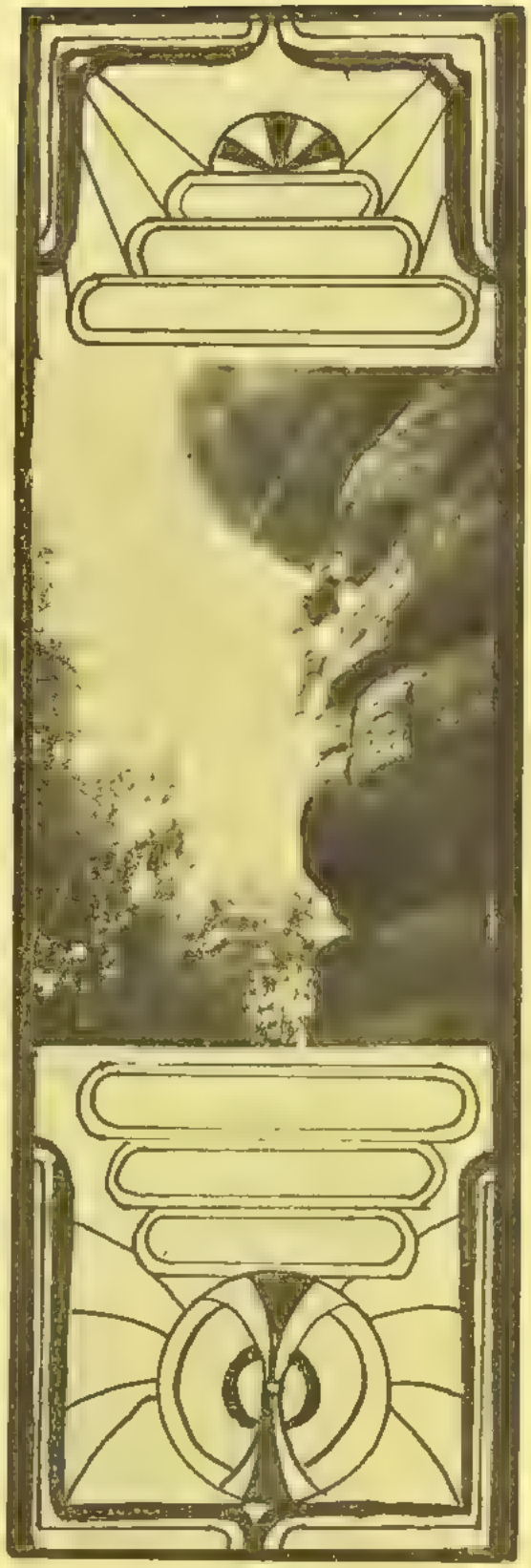
On the 1st of February, a minibus full went to Stone Farm to climb on the outcrops there, and the latest trip has been one to the Roaches, again in the Peak District. It is hoped that there will be a club holiday, probably in the West Country, during the summer.

The club has been very fortunate to get a club room, and this is used on several lunchtimes a week as a meeting place for members, who now number 20.

Thanks are due to Robert Jopling who is a very efficient treasurer, to Peter Hellawell, the equipment officer, and to Johnathan Zangwill.

Lastly, we must thank Mr. Smith, the chairman, who does most of the work in the club and who of course does all the driving on club outings. We all accord him our best wishes on his "new venture".

D.L. Rosen.
6BSc 1
Secretary.



Phoenix

The end of the winter term and the whole of the spring term form the period when most school activities flourish: everyone has settled into the routine of a new school year and the examinations are still at a comfortable distance. Phoenix has certainly been no exception and during the last six months, it has produced a number of excellent meetings.

As David Bleiman hinted in our last report, the Censorship Symposium, held in conjunction with NLCS, was an "unprecedented success", with an attendance of more than 200! Geoff Kilbreth, a visitor to the school from the U.S.A., gave a very interesting talk (enhanced by the characteristic American drawl) on the writer, William Faulkner. With the help of a number of extracts from his work, Michael Wills discussed the poetry of T.S. Eliot, drawing particular attention to his most famous poem, "The Waste Land".

More recently, I indulged my own particular literary interests, and delivered a paper entitled "The Awareness of Being", which despite its apparent obscurity, aimed at trying to discuss existercialism in modern literature. Dick Humphreys gave a talk with slides on the painter De Chirico, who, as he informed us, was the precursor of the Surrealist movement. Pollution is becoming an ever-important problem, and a discussion on the subject, organised by Dick Tilley and chaired by Peter Beales, under the title of a "Symposium on Man's Environment", proved very lively despite the disappointing attendance. Maintaining our reputation for diversity, Andrew Frape and Jeremy Stone unravelled the intricacies of German Romanticism through such writers as Geothe, Schiller, and von Kleist.

We ended the spring term with two lunch time discussions, to mark the tenth anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre, on Apartheid in South Africa.

Thanks are due to Mr. Fitch who ensures the smooth running of the society and gives support to our meetings, and also to all the other masters who have periodically swelled our ranks. Thanks also to David Bleiman who has been a tremendous help.

H.B. Eder 6AM1.

Printing

At the moment there is a feeling amongst the printers that the School is taking too much for granted. The nine members of the group are not professional printers and the time available for carrying out orders is limited to S.S.U. time of Friday afternoon and to lunch times during the week. The results of the hard work that goes into each order may not always be as successful as we would like – it is an undeniable fact that from time to time we encounter failure. However, we learn from our mistakes and this contributes to the many examples of high quality printing which are produced. Whilst we always welcome constructive criticism of our work, we deeply resent the attitude that some people hold that the printing shop is merely a school service and that anything it produces is automatically faulty. More goes on in Room 37 than just drinking coffee.

Since last September we have carried out an enormous amount of orders, varying widely in size and quantity from twenty-five letterheadings to three thousand copies of the school programme. By examining our sample books, into which goes a copy of each job we undertake it will be seen that during the last few years there has been a noticeable change in the type of order printed. A few years ago we seemed to print nothing but societies membership cards, but now the emphasis has shifted to printing notepaper, for business and private use, and play and concert tickets. We are of course still pleased to receive orders from regular customers such as the Film Society. Our Book is progressing well, although there is still much work to be done on it, including finding a title.

Our special thanks go to Mr. Broderick for all his advice, help and encouragement. These are forthcoming at all times and we are indebted to him for them. Finally my thanks go to all my fellow printers, especially Stuart Isaacs, my deputy, for all the hard work they put into each job that they have tackled. As both Stuart and myself are relinquishing our official posts under pressure of school work and impending A-levels, our good wishes to go David Lynch the new King of Room 37.

Gerald Oppenheim,
Head Printer.

Radio

This term the Radio Society has been concentrating mainly on discussion, and these have been on computer design.

If sufficient funds could have been raised a RADSOC computer might have been built.

Recently Mr. Wood, our keen master in charge, purchased 1000 transistors, so the latter part of the term has been devoted to transistor testing. These are to be sold at reasonable prices.

P.J. Cummin (Hon. Sec.)

Railway

The autumn term has produced an all time record for membership of 123. This figure is higher than that when the old Transport Society had regular lunch time film shows, and is attributable to the fact that the whole of the railway was operable for most of the term. This (spring) term has shown a drop in membership to a more comfortable 40, due mainly to an increase in the membership fee.

The Society has now taken over the library's collection of old copies of the 'Railway Magazine', and other similar magazine and books of railway and model interest, some of them being at least 72 years old. They are now available on loan to members.

The half-term trip this term was to Finsbury Park diesel depot, where British Rail's Eastern Region diesel locomotives are serviced and to the Post Office Railway station and workshops at Mount Pleasant. Our thanks are due particularly to the manager of the Post Office Railway for allowing us to visit parts of his 'empire' not normally open to the public.

We are also grateful to Mr. Keith Catchpole, the Festiniog Railway Company's official lecturer, for giving us a talk and film show on the Festiniog Railway.

The Society's own railway continues to be rebuilt at the usual slow rate, but should be ready by open day. Further details can be found in the Railway Society's biannual Newsletter.

G.N. Felton (Secretary)

Science

Good Evening, poor people.

Yes, it's another dynamic, star studded, Science Society report. (the SS to you). We think that the time has come for us to say goodbye to the Society. You may well ask why. The reason is that we, the secretaries, and it, the treasurer, have discovered that the Society has been making a profit. We leave for South America tomorrow. In our wake we leave Lawrence Galitz to carry on, where we wisely left off.

You will find that the films projected in the future by the Society will be very educational, very relevant, very good for you, and dreadfully boring.

For those of you who like figures, here are a few: 36–24–34.

And now to finish on an old cliche.

Alistair Kelman

whose strings were pulled by S.J.G., A.A.P., and M.C.A.M.)

Stamp

The Stamp Club has had quite a successful year. We now constitute one of the largest school societies, having a membership of over 60. February saw the issue of the first Stamp Club Newsletter, which included details of British new issues for 1970, a survey of British Philatelic periodicals and some recent new issue details. About 40 copies were sold altogether In March Mr. Hayler (our new master i/c) took a party of 13 boys to 'Stampex', the national stamp exhibition at the Horticultural Hall. In September, the Stamp Club is planning to visit 'Philympia', the International Stamp Exhibition at Olympia.

(T.J. Huxley)

AN ANONYMOUS DONATION, BY ML.

CADET FORCES

ROYAL NAVY

So far this year the R.N. section once again has been the focal point of C.C.F. activity, producing exciting and sometimes unpredictable events every week. We started off the new season with a broken leg on the Assault Course; but the owner soon recovered and is now one of the most enthusiastic members of the section. The other event was the boat-burning exercise at the reservoir. The follow-up to this will be the burning of the Junior Playground boat, led once again by the arch fire-maker Mr. Wrench.

The Autumn term field day, as always, resulted in an extremely rewarding experience for all groups. For the "rugby four" party there was a brilliant mock "Armada" battle with the sailing dinghies on or in the reservoir (depending who was in the losing boat). To add to the fun of this sailing day the Met. Office had provided us with a gusty and stormy day, just right for capsizing, as Nick French and Van. G. found out in the dying seconds of the afternoon session.

The rest of this year will continue to provide the R.N. section with yet more unpredictable events. But of course this successful section cannot be fully efficient without really good men at the top. Luckily for us we have the talents of both an efficient organiser and administrator and a practically-minded man who is always prepared to have-a-go and give his own individual contributions, which are usually unforgettable, to outdoor activities. So, I would like to thank Lt. Hickman and Sub-Lt. Wrench for their invaluable work and guidance in maintaining an efficient Royal Naval Section.

P. W. Newby : Cox'n.

ARMY

In the past two years there has been an alarming drop in the number of recruits entering the Army Section. However, lack of members has by no means dampened enthusiasm, especially among the Proficiency, which in the last term, has had four new recruits, three of them from other sections. This is very encouraging and justifies the newly adopted policy that what we lack in members we make up for in efficiency and enthusiasm.

Field day last term was rather uneventful; the Signallers had an exercise at school, the Engineers rebuilt the Assault Course and the Basic's exercise at Hampstead Heath was cancelled because of the weather.

There is the Easter Camp in Snowdonia to look forward to and further ahead, summer camp on the Sussex Downs. It is also hoped to enter teams to this year's Ten Tors Competition next term.

The future of the Section does not look very encouraging with the decline in entries, but the enthusiasm of the younger members will soon, it is hoped, have beneficial effects. We thank Captain Welbourne and Captain Hewitt for their continued interest and Colonel Hewson for his untiring support.

C.S.M. Brown.

RAF

THE MANAGEMENT would like to announce that the Section has moved to larger premises in the form of the main parade ground. By some oversight, however, its potential for endless drill has not been realised! Instead, apart from our usual activities of shooting, signals, assault course, exercises, films, Avon jet engine dissection and so forth, we have taken to the water with our new ex-Shackleton nine-man dinghy. Particular thanks must go to Mr. Davies for his patience with our Friday afternoon monopoly of the swimming pool, and to Mr. Benbow for his generosity in dispensing compressed air!

The second announcement is one of congratulation to Sgt. Goater in his double coup of pulling off not only the Section's second current R.A.F. Scholarship but also an International Cadet Exchange Visit: an opportunity for him to spend a month in any country from the U.S.A. to the Far East.

Spring term Field-Day comprised two highly successful over-night visits. One was to RNAS Yeovilton to pay respects to the Fleet Air Arm. The other was to R.A.F. Honington, our new parent Station. It was the first visit by a C.C.F. Unit since the Station's reopening to cater for the Buccaneer strike aircraft which are being transferred from the Royal Navy. By 1972 this Station will have an operational strength of sixty aircraft, and we look forward to many more equally enjoyable visits there.

The Easter holidays were also a busy time with two Easter Camps: one at 'home' (R.A.F. Hereford) and one at R.A.F. Bruggen in Germany. In addition several cadets gained their gliding wings at No.1 Gliding Centre, R.A.F. Swanton Morely, bringing the Station's total of qualified glider pilots up to fifteen.

By the time this is published we will once again be terrifying the bird population of Haberdashers' with our magnificent flying machine, and looking forward to our big summer camp at R.A.F. Leuchars (Lightning Squadrons), more gliding for some, and for Sgt. C.R. Armstrong and Corporals C.W. Hawes and J.G. Martin the realisation of Flying Scholarships (thirty hours flying at the taxpayer's expense).

Finally, and most important, our repeated thanks to our exploited secretary Miss. R. Dearden, and to Squadron Leader T.E. Carrington and Flight Lieutenant B. Goater for their undauntable enthusiasm and utterly commendable courage in ploughing into the morass of red tape, euphemistically termed "admin.", without which the Section could never maintain the furious pace of activity it has come to expect.

Christmas (1969) Promotions:

To Sergeant: Corporal J.N. Goater
Corporal J.B. Kent

Easter (1970) Promotions:

To Sergeant: Corporal M.I. Knowles
Corporal D.R.O. Layzell
Corporal R.C. Wilson

To Corporal: Cadets C.W. Hawes
R.D. Hunter
J.G. Martin
J.S. Taylor

T.J. Wellburn
Flight Sergeant

POLICE

It was once said by Samuel Butler, the renowned seventeenth-century hudibrastic poet, that,

"He that complies against his will
Is of his own opinion still ..."

and indeed, in spite of the request by Inspector Richardson, who left us in November to receive a well-deserved promotion, that the group should contain as many as could squeeze into the minibus, in this case fifteen people, it is still my humble opinion that the enlightenment afforded to those extra few who joined by virtue of the increase in numbers, did not justify the Gargantuan reduction in the standard of mature and responsible conduct required of the entrants. It must regretfully be admitted that many members of this year's group were not mature enough to be able fully to appreciate some aspects of the course, as was evidenced by an increasing number of families going away for the weekend, driving lessons and the extraction of wisdom teeth which could only be arranged on Friday afternoons, not to mention unavoidable half-hour delays (which unfortunately caused the delayee to miss the minibus) incurred in getting from the science block to the garage, and I hope that this will be borne in mind by my successor, when the time comes to recruit next year's cadets.

On behalf of the group I would like to extend a hearty farewell to Inspector Richardson who laboured untiringly to provide an informative and captivating course for us. I would also like to bid welcome and farewell to Inspector Gretton who led us proficiently during the latter half of the Autumn Term and was subsequently transferred to "statue-watching" duties. I hope that Inspector Anderson, (who made an auspicious take-over in January, bringing us all down to earth with an edifying expatiation on the results of bad road accidents, a didactic delivery on national disasters, a visit to the mortuary, followed up by a talk on the work of the Coroner's Officer, all in the space of four weeks), will stay with us for a long time.

This year's course has contained, for the benefit of those who have attended, a memorable visit to the driving school at Hendon where we were entertained with a magnificent display (of driving) on the skid-pan, after which we were taken in the cars at very high speed around and on the pan, and, just as we were mending our shattered nerves, Mr. Walker and I were "invited" to participate. The score after five minutes each was, to Mr. Walker five cones knocked over, and, to myself, one cone decapitated and generally mangled out of existence due to being caught in the fan-blades We also visited the Cadet Training School, Scotland Yard, and Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court (where several cadets blanched on witnessing a rather imperious magistrate sentence a student convicted of the larceny of a six-shilling paperback with the words, "Acts of dishonesty cost money; in your case twenty five pounds.") and by the time of publication, we shall probably have visited the River Police, the Stolen Car Branch and many other interesting venues. Next year's schedule promises to surpass even this year's.

Many thanks for his services are certainly due to Mr. Walker, to whom we must unfortunately bid a fond farewell and wish him every success in his new post. He has indubitably given us many happy memories, particularly of an exhilarating style of driving in which, although deviating from "Roadcraft" on a few minor points, he has suffered no casualties (apart from a couple of prep-formers who impaled themselves upon the wing-mirrors while we were stationary), and in which, driving a Ford Transit minibus, he has conducted us from place to place in a fashion by comparison with which the Monte Carlo Rally would resemble the Mobil Economy Run.

In conclusion I would like to thank Aldenham School for the generous hospitality which it has extended to us on many occasions, and to wish next year's cadets an enjoyable and entertaining course.

Stephen Moss 6BScI.
Senior Cadet 1969–70.

S.S.U. ~ Community Service

Looking back through past issues of 'Skylark' over the last five years., I find extensive reports on all branches of the C.C.F. but no mention at all of the S.S.U. or community service. It is therefore with a view to analysis that I commence this report.

For years the S.S.U. has been regarded as the special skiver's unit for those weak-minded individuals who have not the courage to participate in the hard man's life of the Corps. However, through the years the number of these intellectual cowards has increased so dramatically that now we form the majority.

With so large a potential as 250 boys involved, the S.S.U. has been re-organised by Mr. Bunker with respect to community service, and it now stands as a worthwhile alternative to the C.C.F.

With no comparable activities to army drill possible for Friday afternoons, it is hard to organise any worthwhile projects for the two hours available. However, such groups as the Bridge and Chess have been discontinued. In order to pursue these leisure activities now it is necessary to find one's partners in the wards of nearby hospitals or among the elderly people of the area, and in so doing so provide hours of rewarding entertainment.

With the aid of the "Taskforce" organisation in Barnet and Camden, several groups of boys are sent to help various individual old people with their housework, shopping, re-decoration and gardening, and often by simply chatting and playing records to them. Simple and rewarding visits in this field comprise the most laudable part of the Friday afternoon activities.

There are also two folk groups, one providing entertainment at old age homes and hospitals and the other independent, which also collects money for charity. Money is also raised for charity by the car-washing group.

Other sections of the S.S.U. include those aimed at providing service to the school, such as the estate group, concerned with the upkeep of the school grounds, the printing and art groups, and the drama, biology and geography groups. There are also technical services, at present engaged in providing the school with a digital computer as well as repairing faulty school equipment, and the current affairs section, which provides members of the school with amusing and topical diversion on the Calverts' noticeboards. Other activities are life-saving and first-aid training, and the library, careers, music, workshop, expeditions and campanology groups.

The main S.S.U. effort, with regard to community service, is applied on the Field Days and during the holidays. Although the last Field Day was severely hampered by snow, much valuable social work was done in visiting old people at homes and individually, and also by helping in such hospitals as the Edgware General, The Royal National Orthopaedic in Stanmore and Harrow Hospital. Very useful work was done by some boys and staff with the Notting Hill Housing Trust in Acton by cleaning out condemned houses prior to redecoration, so that homeless families could be rehoused. Work at the Parkhill Adventure Playground and the Northern Hospital in Finchley had, unfortunately, to be cancelled due to the weather.

RUGBY

1st XV

Unrealized potential, so often the regretful comment of past 1st XV captains, must once again be stated as some kind of explanation for only a moderate season this year. The team finished with an even record of seven wins and seven losses, which, after last year's successful season, was something of a disappointment.

The pack, which contained only two of last year's players, was generally quite a capable unit, but most of the experience and attacking flair lay in the backs, who did not always make the most of their chances, but were constantly dangerous to the opposition.

The season began with rather an easy win against a weak City of London side. This was followed by the match against the Masters' Invitation XV, a side collected together by Mr. Wrench, which was not so strong this year as in the past. Consequently the match was more of a game and less of an exhibition than usual. The school eventually lost 12–21. Wasp's Colts XV provided us with very physical opposition but by matching brute force with skill the team achieved a convincing victory.

The side then lost some of its confidence and also the next two matches, against Trinity and Wymondham College, the latter being, like last year, a hard fit side. Then followed a fast close game against Emanuel, which finished in our favour after a poor start. The next game, against Bedford Modern, traditionally a good rugby school, resulted in a pleasing victory despite a reorganised back division due to the temporary loss of Pete Williams, the fly-half. A dour game in wet conditions against the visiting fifteen from Newcastle R.G.S. was then narrowly lost.

The team then went on tour to the West Country. The first game was against Monkton Combe and was, unfortunately, played on the day we travelled. The match was played in front of a massive, partisan crowd and we began disastrously, conceding 11 points in the first fifteen minutes. The team fought back well but the final whistle came too soon and we were beaten 16–22. The next day we played Monmouth in one of the most important fixtures of the year. In contrast to the previous day, we scored all our points first, including what was perhaps the most perfectly executed try of the season. The second half was spent energetically defending our own line, which we did successfully enough to emerge winners by 10 points to 6. Thus we took home with us the cup which is attached to the match and which seems to leave Monmouth far too rarely. I hope we shall now retain it at Haberdashers for a few years.

After half term the team was rather disappointing, losing to St. Albans, Berkhamsted and Q.E. Barnet. However, against Royal Masonic, when conditions made handling difficult, the backs produced some brilliant play, scoring 8 tries.

The match against Merchant Taylors was cancelled due to frost and snow and the last match of the season, also on a frosty pitch, was against the Old Haberdashers. We managed to end on a successful note by winning a close game by 2 points.

One aspect of play which was much improved this year was place-kicking. This is a factor which decides many international and club matches but is often neglected at school level. However, this year we had two good kickers in Billy Hughes and Pete Williams. Our superior place-kicking won us the matches against Emanuel, Monmouth and the Old Haberdashers and also considerably increased our winning margin in other matches.

The Team:

The front row consisted of Steve Hardman, a hard reliable prop who was also very prominent in open play; John Frenkel at hooker, and Pete Rule, who capably took over the pack leadership after the Wymondham match. In the second row we began the season with Nigel Cox, the secretary, playing out of position and Clive Wilson. Unfortunately, Nigel Cox suffered an injury early on which put him out for some time although he returned at the end of the season to the back row. He was replaced by Jay Herbert who added some much-needed height to the line-out. The back row was made up of Nick French, Phil Newby and John Van Griethuysen.

At scrum-half, Mike Higham was always quick and alert, scoring several opportunist tries and linking up well with Pete Williams, the vice-captain, who was a dependable fly-half as well as a useful place-kicker. Dave Stechler, in the centre was a strong runner and tackler and scored several tries with his unstoppable bursts through the middle. The second centre, on whom the team relied a great deal, was John Evans, who set up, and also scored, countless tries with his quick breaks and powerful acceleration. The two wingers were Steve Page and Jerry Sanders, the latter always running with incredible determination if not particularly great pace. Finally, the side was completed at full-back by Billy Hughes, who was always reliable and whose kicking was, as I have already mentioned, often vitally important.

Finally, I would like to thank all the masters who came out training with us and who encouraged us throughout the season, notably Messrs. Wrench, Tealsley, Snook and Squire and especially Mr. Davies, our master in charge.

Steve Page—Captain

Team:— **P.H. Rule, *J.R. Frenkel, **S. Hardman, *J.J.F. Herbert, **S.N. Cox, *C.H. Wilson, **W.J. Van Griethuysen, *P.W. Newby, *N. French, **M.J. Higham, ***P.D. Williams (V-Capt.), ***J.L. Evans, ***D.L Stechler, *J.L. Sanders, ***R.S. Page (Capt.), **L.O. Hughes.

Also played:— *G.A. Seaman, *C.I. Newbold, *G R.L. Seal.

*** Full colours ** Half colours * 1st XXX colours

Results:—

v. City of London	W 22—3	v. Monkton Combe	L 16—22
v. Wasps Colts XV	W 26—9	v. Monmouth	W 10—6
v. Trinity	L 10—15	v. St. Albans	L 5—9
v. Wymondham College	L 9—19	v. Royal Masonic	W 26—3
v. Emanuel	W 20—15	v. Berkhamsted	L 8—15
v. Bedford Modern	W 11—3	v. Q.E. Barnet	L 10—24
v. Newcastle R.G.S.	L 5—9	v. Old Haberdashers	W 11—9

v. Bancrofts
v. Merchant Taylors — Cancelled

2nd XV

Responsible opinion about the success of the 2nd XV at the beginning of the season was divided, some suggesting that the loss of so many of last year's team could not be made up and others who felt that members from the outstanding Under 16s would more than compensate.

As it turned out, the team had an average season winning 4, losing 4, drawing 2. The results, however, were disappointing due to the erratic performances of a potentially promising side. The opening two matches were against the two strongest sides we played, Trinity and Wymondham, and in both we were beaten disastrously. The reason for this lies in the team not being organised early enough and if any lesson is to be learnt from this season it is the

need to pick the side along with the 1st XV and train against them to create understanding and team spirit which are fundamental to a team's success. The team was further hindered by the hard grounds which brought a number of injuries and White was particularly unfortunate to break his nose against Emmanuel.

Once the team did become a little more settled we played well against Bedford Modern 10–10, Berkhamsted 5–0 and Queen Elizabeth 24–19. Outstanding players were Layzell, Humphris and Cronbach in the scrum and Moore, Dakhil, Seal and Harris in the three-quarters with Seaman, Newby, Cox and Newbold ably supporting the side when they were not in the 1st XV.

Both Mr. Squire and Mr. Snook took time and trouble in training the team and they in part were responsible for the team playing with such spirit and enthusiasm by the end of the season.

P.D. Reiss (Capt.)

Team included:– N.W. Alexander, R. Hunter, G. Seaman*, M.L. Masters, D.R.H. Layzell*, J. Herbert*, P.A. Humphris, N. Cox**, S. Cronbach, J. Kraut, Clements, G. White, I.G. Symons, C.I.K. Harris, I. Moore, D.M. Dakhil, G.R.L. Seal*, R.C. Swain, M.I. Leigh, R. Kilpatrick, P.W. Newby*, L.O. Hughes**, P.D. Reiss*.

* 1st XXX ** Half colours

Results:–

Trinity	23–21	L	Royal Masonic	14–6	W
Wymondham	8–24	L	Berkhamsted	5–0	W
Emmanuel	11–9	W	St. Georges 1st XV	3–3	D
Bedford Modern	10–10	D	Queen Elizabeth	24–19	W
St. Albans	5–20	L	Old Haberdashers	3–14	L

3rd XV

Haberdasher's 3rd XV lined up for its team photograph, hardly a sight to strike terror into the hearts of invading aliens; a set of diminutive backs and a further eight individuals, collectively known as the forwards.

However, this set of "odd-balls" contains some players with an element of talent and more than its fair share of enthusiasm. Unfortunately, enthusiasm and talent do not make an ideal team, when regular appearances are not assured. At the end of the season only 6 of the original team remained, the rest lost either to higher teams or to unseen obstructions.

St. George's 2nd XV and Queen Elizabeth's 3rd XV were the only two teams which fell to the blitzkrieg tactics of the 3rds. At St. George's, Swain (subsequently lost to the 2nds) contributed greatly to the 3rds success, setting up some fine tries. 13 points was Wolff's total, at Queen Elizabeth's, Barnet, where he kicked some good penalties–one from the half-way line (a short, sloping pitch and a following wind should not be ignored in the achievement of this *fluke*). The addition of Kilbreth, Graft and Kraut undoubtedly helped the forwards' loose play and therefore contributed to the team's success, in these matches.

Those people, whom I lured from their beds on Saturday mornings, for the questionable pleasure of playing for our illustrious side, have my deepest sympathy. Finally, I should like to thank Messrs. Snook and Griffiths who helped considerably in the organisation of this year's team.

R. Auterac P. Cook, B. Davimes, G. Davis, C. Edelman, P.G.C.

Team:– R. Auterac, P. Cook, B. Davimes, G. Davis, C. Edelman, D. Graft, J. Hardy, R. Hunter, G. Kilbreth, J. Kraut, P. Nisbett, E. Perkins, M. Smith, J. Wills, J. Wolff

Guest Appearances: Brown, Clements, Crabb, Dakhil, Finch, Ind, Kilpatrick, Lewis, Saxon, Stuart-Kregor, Swain, Waller

4th XV

If one measures success in terms of enjoyment, then the 4th XV had a very successful season. One feels, however, that if the team originally selected on Friday mornings had actually played on Saturday afternoons then perhaps the results would have been better. Indeed, due to a general belief that 4th XV players could be selected by other teams just before the match, we played with less than fifteen players on two occasions.

The score at Mill Hill just about reflects the ability of the team at the start of the season, although a widespread lack of stamina lost the game against Bedford who scored more than half their points in the last ten minutes. The game against St. Albans was played in a hail storm and only upon enquiry did we find the home team had scored because the visibility was so bad. It was in this game that we had the appearance of Mike Leigh who had the distinction of scoring a try, having two disallowed, being sent off and brought back on within the space of about five minutes.

Dick Townsend led the scrum admirably and his many years experience on the Northbank, Highbury, were frequently in evidence and always an advantage. Mention must also be made of Dowey and Reynolds who were perhaps the two most enthusiastic forwards in the matches and the only two who attended training regularly. After the Mill Hill game Rob Seaman was moved from centre to scrum half and made a mockery of the theory that good scrum halves are small. Next to him on the line was Nick Wells whose apparently amazing place kicking from almost impossible angles was never called upon (although doubts were often cast upon this tremendous ability). Another regular player was 'Digger' Berry, who usually played at full back but also occupied the wing and centre berth (on one occasion both at the same time).

Thanks must go to Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Snook whose coaching was, alas, not appreciated by many to the disadvantage of the team as a whole.

Graham Roff (6AM4) Captain

U.16 RUGBY REPORT

The season ended in a satisfactory manner, with the U.16 team scoring 78 points in its last two matches, and this against opponents who had troubled us in the past. Whilst this statistic flatters the team it does point to an ability to attack successfully. This may be attributed to the speed and strength of the threequarters and continuous support from an extremely mobile back row, that contained at various times Auden, Feldman, Gershfield and Walter.

Early in the season two important matches were lost owing to a lack of power in the front five forwards. Against Trinity possession from set pieces was inadequate and against Emanuel virtually non-existent. The tackling of the threequarters proved to be incapable of stopping the opposing backs and unfortunately large scores were conceded.

The remainder of the matches were much brighter, both in terms of results and the quality of the rugby played, with perhaps the best performance being against Wymondham. Seal and Hibberd continued their successful partnership at half-back and both were outstanding, particularly early on in the season. Mcneil, Gershfield and Gershuny had their moments of triumph whilst Goff and Feldam got through an enormous amount of work to gain possession.

Lack of reserves proved to be one of the team's main difficulties; with the notable exception of Waller who made up for any technical deficiencies with an effervescing enthusiasm for rugby unmatched by many permanent members of the side.

I would like to thank Mr. Yeabsley and Mr. Bennett for giving up their time for the team's benefit; and also to express my hope that the splitting up of the team is purely a temporary phenomenon and that in two years an improved version of the present side will be playing as the 1st XV.

R.M. Perfect

Team: K.R. Smith, A.R. Gershuny, J.F. Mcneil, R.M. Perfect*, M.G. Hamment, M.G. Hibberd, J.M.G. Seal*, J. Gershfield*, S.P. Auden*, R.L. Feldman*, S.H. Gelber, E. Pickard, P.D.M. Ross*, I. Pickard, R. Goff*.

Also played: P. Walter, B. Chan, J. Wills

* Colours

Under Fifteen

For the Under 15's last year was a season of mixed success. After being only once defeated in 1968, at the beginning of the season our hopes were high, but partly due to complacency and partly due to the three-quarters rarely seeing the ball, we lost our first game at Trinity. In our next game we took advantage of Bancroft's weaknesses and played some good open Rugby, which we continued in our game against Bedford. From then on, our luck changed, and in the next three games we were badly defeated. At times, some of the play was promising, but inconsistency in the tackling and covering meant that in defence we tended to be vulnerable. Again, throughout the season, the play of the back row—and in particular Barker— was of a high standard. The supporting and rucking, was always one of the strengths of the team, but the inability to release the ball in the mauls and give quick clean possession to the backs was one of the weaknesses that enabled the opposition's defence to reorganize before our own attack could be completed. In the three-quarters the problem of when to kick, pass, or hold the ball was common and often the wrong decision meant that our attack was broken up only yards short of the line.

Nevertheless, towards the end of the season, we only narrowly lost to Q.E. after we had led till half-time. I think that the enthusiasm and the good attendance at the practices did affect our play, and though the results were not particularly impressive, I think that we enjoyed our Rugby. Finally, mention of Messrs. Welbourne, Wrench and Yeabsley should be made, who all spent much time coaching and encouraging us.

A.W. Goudie

L Trinity	5 25	L St Albans	3 48
W Bancrofts	43 6	L Berkhamsted	13 21
W Bedford	14 11	L Queen Elizabeth's	16 21
L Emmanuel	3 19	L London Navy School	3 19

Team: Goudie*, Adam, Barker*, Bateson, Beales*, Brown, Clements, Coral, Crame, Edwards, Gordon*, Palluch, Raw*, Smith M.P., Stanley, Wills

* Colours

RUGBY U.13 XV

The Under 13 XV had a very successful season, winning all five matches, thanks mainly to the driving force exerted by Mr. Yeabsley. The matches were not nearly as tiring as the training sessions he put us through.

Regarding the games, the outstanding players were Sheffrin who scored fifteen tries, and Chan who was a 'tower of power' in the second row, linking well with Goff and Crame in the loose. The forwards as a unit showed great rucking ability, particularly against the heavier sides and also got a good deal of possession from set scrums. Generally, however, the lack of push in the 'set pieces' meant 'bad ball'.

The backs played an open game without much kicking and set ploys were used to great effect. It is interesting to note that all the points were scored from tries and conversions.

Finally, I would like to mention Steve Russell who was a very good second row but unfortunately emigrated to Australia at half term. We all miss him; colours were awarded to him before he left.

Bill Bowyer – Captain

Played 5 Won 5 Points for 103 Against 29

Team: Bowyer*, Cowan*, Sheffrin*, Cornish, Armstrong, Morley, Alterman, Wilson, A., Stevenson, Coupar, Chan*, Russell*, Jones*, Goff*, Crame*, Wilson, H., Shaps*, McNeil.

* Colours

The willingness to listen, learn and train as a team has made this a most encouraging and enjoyable season. Providing that the basics of the game, scrummaging (the one apparent weakness) tackling and handling are improved upon, we shall not only provide the School with a good XV but also provide positive, attractive rugby for spectators.

D.I. Yeabsley.

1st YEAR

The 1st Year XV converted enthusiasm and eagerness to learn into sound technique in the basic skills of the game enabling them to win five out of six school games. The forwards in particular enjoyed learning the techniques of the set pieces and soon became aware of the importance of rucking in the modern game.

C.G.S.

Colours awarded to:— Sadler D.M. (Capt.), Bell S.A.N., Goodall N.D., Jeffries C.C., Leigh T.R., McTurk I R., Ward M.S.

If there is any one factor to which our success has been due, it must surely have been the guidance given to us by Mr. Talbot. He has pushed, cajoled and coaxed us to what has been an immensely enjoyable season. In the short space of time that he has been here his impact on all levels of school hockey have been tremendous. His colleagues, of course, also deserve high levels of praise for their unflagging zeal throughout what has really been only half a season. We would like to thank Mr. Dawson, Mr. Flushnor, Mr. Kent, Mr. Moore, Mr. Rowe, Mr. Watson and Mr. Yeabsley very much for all that they have done for School hockey this season.

Lastly I would like to turn to the hardest job in hockey at Elstree, that of preparing the pitches. Mr. Parker and his staff have an uphill fight producing playable pitches on the Elstree clay and the excellent standard of the pitches bears witness to their efforts. Our sincere thanks go to them.

P.D. Williams

Results:	Played	Won	Draws	Goals (for)	Goals (against)
	6	4	2	22	6

Team: P.D. Williams (Capt.), M. Higham, Hughes (Sec.), Humphris, Ind, Innocenti, Page (V.Capt.), Nynion, Myham, Reiss, Wilson.

2nd XI

Starting the season on, what appeared to be, a mixture of First XI leftovers and players of no recognised ability, the Second XI soon combined to form a team whose group skill, at times, rivalled that of the First XI. The first match, against Royal Russell, proved that, even while its play had, as yet, to progress from the experimental stages, this team could win.

The best performance of the season was undoubtedly against Merchant Taylors. A well organised defence made excellent use of Newby and Clark on the wings, whose cross-passes frequently created goal-scoring opportunities for Harris, Seaman and Fletcher. Sanders, in goal, made some miraculous saves and was unlucky to have to concede a goal. The team played consistently well against Aldenham, but, regrettably, lacked some of the control in defence in the absence of Pierce.

Bancrofts were given a severe defeat mainly through the skill of the forwards, Seaman scoring five goals, but it was generally felt that the standard of hockey in this match was low. The final match, against Mill Hill, was a disappointing way to end the season. Unashamedly making use of rugby tactics to gain possession, Mill Hill managed to remove much of the skill from the game. I understand, from a reliable source, that the rules were abandoned after the first twenty minutes and the game almost ended in a free fight. It was, however an unofficial victory to Haberdashers by one broken finger, scored from a short corner. The players must be congratulated on their self-control.

Unfortunately, due to bad weather, the irregularity of practices and many cancellations the team was not allowed to reach its full potential.

R. Britton

Team: Newby, Harris, Seaman, Fletcher, Clark, French, Britton (Capt.), Brand, Rule, Pierce, Sanders.
Also played: Pollard

Royal Russel	3	0	W
Merchant Taylors	6	1	W
Aldenham	2	2	D
Bancrofts	7	0	W
Mill Hill	1	3	L

Cancelled: Dulwich, Alleynes, Watford, Hitchin, Royal Masonic, St. Albans

Rifle

The Winter and Spring terms are predominately Small Bore, and the club has been determined to prove this by entering a large number of competitions and leagues. We entered the P.S.S.R.A's Autumn leagues, with two teams, and backed this up by a trip to the Gordon Boys School and Frimley Park for the Association's Christmas meeting. D.J. Cooper walked away with the individual championship, and the club took away a substantial amount of metal (of the realm). The results are detailed later.

The standard of .22 shooting has been maintained at the upper echelons of the Club, with the occasional exception, with our averages well up into the nineties on '66 cards. It is vitally important that those who are in this year's 4th and 3rd forms make an effort to shoot regularly, as they are the material on which future R.C. teams depend. At present, we have a shortage of team material, which could become dangerous if not noticed and improved.

We start the .303 season in cahoots with the O.H.R.C. on the 18th April with the Malvern Cup, and our Easter practice the following week. Mr. Benbow has again agreed to endanger his health by accompanying us, and I would like to thank him, especially for his vigilance over our .22 shooting, his 'after hours' reading, and servicing of the match rifles.

The results follow, and will serve to inspire (I hope) those who haven't yet entered any competitions this season.

J. Sanders (Capt. of Shooting)

Autumn League Div. A1

	shot	won	pts.	agg.
Uppingham	5	5	10	2370
Oakham	5	4	8	2353
Haberdashers	5	3	6	2264
Cranleigh	5	2	4	2248
Monmouth	5	2	4	2238
Duke of York's	5	1	2	2205

Shoulder to shoulder v. St. Dunstans

Haberdashers	734 oc	800
St. Dunstans	716 oc	800

Frimley Park Open Meeting – 97 competitors

Individual	1st	D.J. Cooper	297 out of	300
Pairs	Equal 1st	Haberdashers (Armstrong & Masters)		198
		Trinity, Croydon		198
		Uppingham		198
	5th	(Sanders & Cooper)		196
Fours	1st	Merchant Taylors		394
	7th	Haberdashers (Sanders, Nunan, Cooper, Masters)		389

P.S.S.B.R.A. Long Range Open Meeting, Richmond
Ex 70 Competitors

Individual	1st	A. Nunan#*		381 ex 400
	2nd	M. Masters#*		372 ex 400
	3rd	J. Sanders#*		372 ex 400
	4th	D. Cooper*		367 ex 400
Pairs	1st	A. Nunan#	J. Sanders#	372 ex 400
	2nd	D. Cooper#	M. Masters#	364 ex 400
Team	1st	Haberdashers 'A' M.L.M., D.J.C., A.N., J.L.S.		736 ex 800
	2nd	Haberdashers 'B' D.S.C#, L.D.M#, P.A.#, C.A.#		715 ex 800

medals * spoons

In addition Cooper and Masters shot for London Schools v. Kensington R.C., and Sanders and Nunan reached the finals of the P.S.S.B.R.A. individual league, the results of which are not yet published.

J.L. Sanders

D.S.H.

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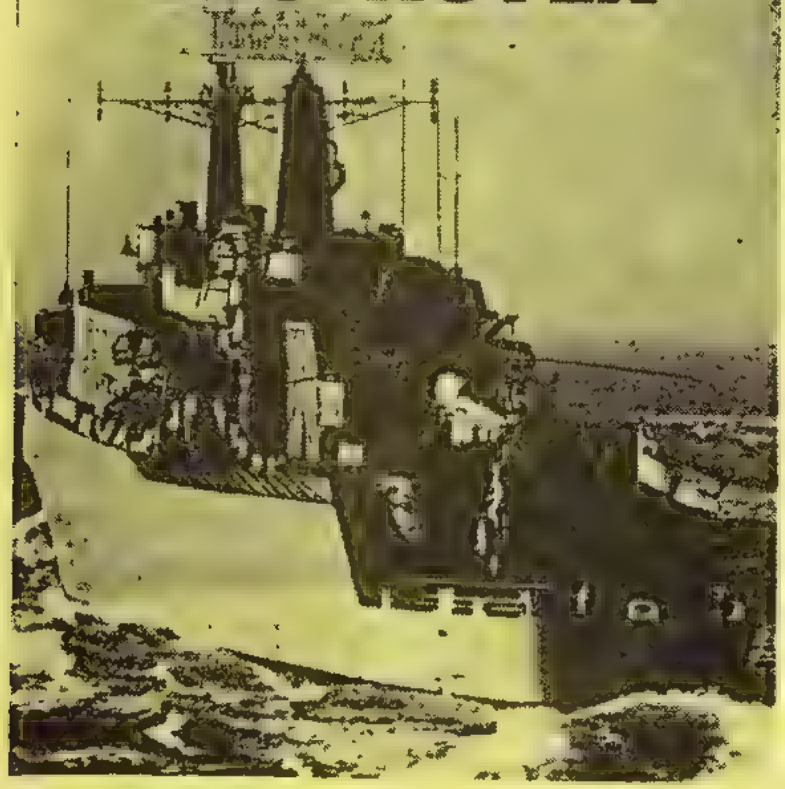

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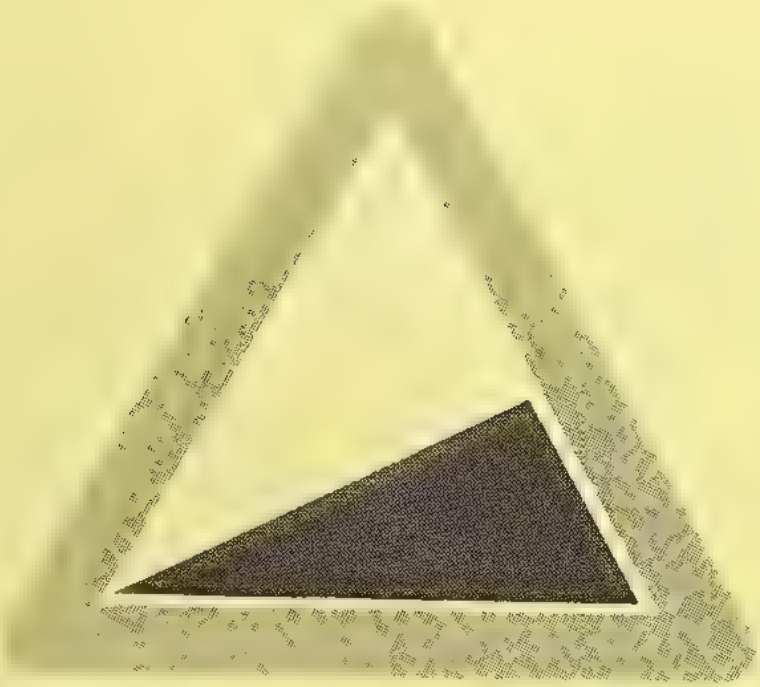

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Tel: St. Albans 54822.

No. 157

BIRTHS

ALEXANDER: On 23rd October 1969 to ANGELA, wife of ANTHONY J.S. ALEXANDER (1956–62) a daughter, JENNIFER.

ASHBERRY: On 26th October 1969, to MARIE, wife of PETER G. ASHBERRY (1930–33) a son, ROBERT.

COOKE: On 27th February 1970 to KATHERINE, wife of DAVID J. COOKE (1953–60) a son, GERVASE EDWARD.

DUNHILL: On 2nd November 1969 to PATRICIA, wife of KEITH B. DUNHILL (1952–58) a daughter, KIRSTINE.

EWER: On 21st December 1969 to JOANNE, wife of MICHAEL B. EWER (1948–60) a daughter KATHERINE ANNE (KATIE), a sister for SIMON.

FAIRLEY: On 20th January 1970 to LINDA, wife of MARTIN C. FAIRLEY (1951–56) a son, STUART.

FORSYTH: On 22nd March 1970 to ELIZABETH, wife of NEIL FORSYTH (1938–45) a son, STUART MALCOLM.

MATTHEW: On 29th December 1969 to JACKIE, wife of ROBIN M. MATTHEW (1942–49) a son, ANGUS.

SHIELLS: On 16th February 1970 to CHRISTINE, wife of PETER C. SHIELLS (1945–52) a son, STEPHEN MARK.

WATSON: On 30th November 1969 to ELIZABETH ANN (LIBBY), wife of W. PAUL WATSON (1952–57) a daughter, KATIE.

MARRIAGES

BINGHAM/RIEGEL: On 14th June 1969 in Virginia, U.S.A., BARRY J. BINGHAM (1953–60) to Miss CORDELIA JANE RIEGEL.

CRESSWELL/BOYLAND: On 11th October 1969 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Kenton, KEITH G. CRESSWELL (1956–66) to Miss SHEILA MARGARET BOYLAND. NIGEL R. COOPER (1959–66), GEOFFREY P. DAVIES (1956–66), A.J.K. (Tony) GARLAND (1960–66), MICHAEL P. ROUSE (1955–66) and GRAHAM S. TILLEY (1959–66) were amongst the guests.

DANIELLI/LANE: On 16th May 1970 at St. Mary's Church, Hendon, ROBIN DANIELLI (1953–60) to Miss ANDREA JANE LANE. R.H. (Jerry) NODES (1919–24), JULIAN LITTLEWOOD (1952–59), PATRICK R. HANSON (1960–66) and MICHAEL J. HIGHAM (1960–) were guests.

GRAY/PUGHE: On 3rd April 1969 at Capel-Y-Trinity, Swansea, NEIL C. GRAY (1951–57) to Miss ANNE PUGHE. MICHAEL R. WITHERIDGE (1951–57) was best man.

HEASMAN/GREEN: On 18th March 1970 at Hampstead Register Office, DAVID J. HEASMAN (1953–59) to Miss ROSALIND GREEN. PHILIP ALTERMAN (1942–49) was a witness.

KIRKBY/FINNIE: On 24th January 1970 at Holy Trinity Church, Leicester, the Rev. JOHN V.M. KIRKBY (1947–57) to Miss SUSANNE FINNIE. A.D.R. (Tony) KIRKBY (1955–62) was best man. PETER STEWART (1948–57) and JOHN ROOT (1952–59) were ushers.

ROBINSON/WINTER: On 20th December 1969 at the Methodist Church, Love Lane, Pinner, CHRIS J. ROBINSON (1943–48) to Miss FERN AVRIL WINTER. JOHN R. PARKER (1949–56) was best man, JOHN S.V. GREEN (1955–61) was an usher and RAY M. KIPPS (1947–55), ROGER F. LEVERTON (1949–56) and PETER J.S. VACHER (1946–55) were also present.

ENGAGEMENT

WINNEY/RICHARDSON: The engagement is announced between RICHARD WINNEY (1953–60) and Miss HELEN RICHARDSON of Nairobi, Kenya.

DEATHS

BROOKER: On 6th February 1970, JAMES A. BROOKER (1917–24).

GILBERT: On 28th September 1969, ALAN STEWART GILBERT, C.B.E., LL.M. (1916–23). We offer our sympathy to his wife JOAN, and regret the inadvertant forwarding of Club circulars several months after the unhappy event.

MOODY: On 6th December 1969, J. CLIVE MOODY (1908–16). Clive played for the O.H.R.F.C. 1st XV in the early seasons, and skippered the 'A' XV in 1929/30. He was in the Artists' Rifles between 1922 and 1931 and served in the Home Guard during the 1939/46 war. He retired from the Bank of England about ten years ago.

ROGERS: On 7th January 1970, GORDON VICTOR ROGERS (1926–35. An obituary notice in The Times of 10th January, 1970 included the following extracts: Upon leaving the School, Gordon went to Oriel College Oxford, where he read law and got a blue for swimming. He was called to the Bar in 1938...was seriously injured during service with the Fleet Air Arm from 1939–46 and retired with the rank of Lt.-Cdr. R.N.V.R....practised on the North-East Circuit and served for a time on the Bar Council. He gained the reputation of an exceptionally able lawyer and skilful advocate...stood as a Liberal Candidate for Darlington in the 1945 and 1950 elections. He joined the Solicitors' Office of the Board of Inland Revenue in 1950...played a decisive part in the implementation of the Restrictive Trade Practices legislation.. ..had been serving in the Office of the Registrar of Restrictive Trading Agreements since its inception in 1956...he rejoiced in the growing up of a happy family and is survived by his widow, mother and three children".

OBITUARY

FRANK L. LOUDON (1907–14), born 1897, died in 1969 aged 72. One of four brothers at the School, Frank played in the Cricket XI in 1914 and afterwards served in the RAMC in the First World War. He had a distinguished business career with the Scottish Provident Institution, first as London Manager and later as Agency Manager. In retirement, his interest in golf led him to the Captaincy of the Old Boys Society, where his keen support of the Grafton Morrish side commanded the praise and respect of all.

PERSONAL

BARRATT, Chris (1952–59), who is an accountant, has moved from ROSE BAY to 1/125, MOUNT STREET, COOGEE, N.S.W. 2034, and seems unlikely to resume playing for the O.H.R.F.C. in the near future.

BURTON, Allan (1924–32) has been appointed Managing Director of Mowlem North East Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary company of John Mowlem and Co. Ltd., to carry out building and civil engineering work from Teeside to the Scottish border. Allan reckons that this will keep him happy (or over-worked) for the next ten years, by which time his roots will be well embedded in beautiful Northumberland.

BINGHAM, Barry J. (1953–60), a notice of whose marriage appears elsewhere, now lives at 9, Hollydale Close, Hillcrest, Reading, Berkshire RG2 822. After obtaining a B.Sc. at Southampton University and spending two years as a Lecturer in Physics at Hollins College, Virginia, Barry did a year's post-graduate study at the University of Virginia. After a year with Elliott Automation as a computer programmer and a third year at Hollins College, he returned to the U.K. and now works for International Computers Ltd., Reading.

DARE, Michael J. (1942–49) has found time to write another saga, despite moving a few miles from Australia to P.O. Box 6837, NAIROBI, KENYA. Michael describes this posting as the best he has ever had, and, reading his letter, it is not too difficult to discover why. Whether he is travelling the country from Zanzibar to Addis Ababa via Egypt, Nairobi and Mombasa, taking his leisure in the Mombasa Club on the edge of the Indian Ocean, or describing the mountains, lakes and animal life of Kenya, his lot certainly seems to compare favourably with those of us for whom rain has (temporarily) stopped play.

DEAN, Andrew J.H. (1965–67) played for Oxford University Divots against the other place's reserves at Sandwich during the early Spring.

DONE, Colin R. (1960–68) has played hockey for Bristol University

EVANS, Howard D.L. (1955-65) gained an Honours degree (upper 2nd class) in Economics at Aberystwyth University

FRANK, A.F. (Tony) (1962–68) played for York University at the Bridlington Hockey Festival.

GAYWOOD, Stanley (1918–24), who astonished pre-war members of the O.H.R.F.C. by holding a 1st XV place at the then advanced age of 29, has retired to GROSSETO in Italy. Any O.H. travelling the VIA AURELIA in the direction of Rome are invited to turn off at ORBETELLO, to be assured of a hearty welcome at the CASA GAIA.

GRAHAM, Ian G. (1962–64), having gained a B.Sc. in Physics at Birmingham University, is now studying for a Ph.D. at the Australian National University in Canberra.

GRAHAM, Peter F., who was believed to be heading East again, after spending Christmas Day in Saigon, turned up at Boreham Wood (complete with sheepskin) on February 7th. He resumed his full back duties (after a break of nearly two years) a fortnight later—the intervening week-end having been snow-bound

GRUNER, Stephen C. (1956–63), who is now a Flight Lieutenant, is A.D.C. to the A.O.C. Germany.

HOCKADAY, Neil (1960–67) and BEAVAN, Peter (1962–68) have compiled and written "The history of the 11th Harrow Scout Group". Its illustrated 60 pages of living history are of interest to Old Haberdashers connected with the Movement, especially those who were former pupils of QUAINTON HALL School in Harrow. Copies may be obtained from N. Hockaday, 58, Glendale Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex for 10/- or 50p. post free.

KIRKBY, John V.M. (1947–57) reluctantly decided the added commitment he undertook in January must mean the end of his football playing career. John had given fairly regular service to the junior sides of the O.H.R.F.C. for over ten seasons.

MORRISON, George B. (1949–52) has joined the board of Weatherby and Sons and now lives at EARLS BARTON near Northampton.

SPIERS, Reggie J. (1940–47) is now a Wing Commander and has joined brother George W. (1931–36) at Boscombe Down, where he is chief test pilot.

STRACHAN, Leigh M. (1958–65) passed his finals in November and is now a Chartered Accountant.

STREET, E. Peter (1929–36) who wrote upon reading of Gordon Rogers' untimely death, says he would be pleased to see any O.H. who may visit BUENOS AIRES for the British Exhibition there in November 1970. He does not anticipate sufficient members to warrant a River-boat Shuffle on the Plate, but indicates that entertainment will not be lacking. It will be recalled that he is with I.C.I.

TAPPIN, Malcolm (1948–55), who reckons that his 29 O.H.R.F.C. 1st XV appearances between 1956/57 and 1969/70 must be some sort of record, played for Huntingdonshire against Suffolk in October, having qualified from Peterborough, his present second-choice club.

SOCIAL DIARY 1970

Month	Day	Date	Event	Venue
June	Friday	5th	Decade dinner pre–1935	Clubhouse
	Friday	12th	Riverboat Shuffle	River Thames
	Sunday	28th	Club Night	Clubhouse
July	Saturday	11th	O.H.A. Day	School
	Saturday	11th	Barbecue and Dance	Clubhouse
	Sunday	26th	Club Night	Clubhouse
August	Sunday	30th	Club Night	Clubhouse
September	Saturday	12th	Watch this Space	Clubhouse
	Friday	25th	Ladies' Night	Clubhouse
	Sunday	27th	Club Night	Clubhouse
October	Thursday	8th	A.G.M. and President's Reception	Clubhouse
	Sunday	25th	Club Night	Clubhouse
	Saturday	31st	Dance	Clubhouse
November	Sunday	29th	Club Night	Clubhouse
December	Saturday	19th	Dance	Clubhouse

By now each of you should have received your Social Diary for 1970. If you haven't—blame the G.P.O. If you would like a copy, please write to the Secretary (address elsewhere) and he will gladly send you one.

WATCH THIS SPACE

Watch this space. Saturday September 12th 1970. Clubhouse. Watch this space. What is it? We aren't saying. Could be we don't know — maybe we do. All we know is — watch this space.

CLUB NIGHT

Just another plug. You all know when it is, what it is, how it is, where it is and even why it is. Have you been yet?

ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

We publish below in its entirety a letter received by the Headmaster. Many of our members now live in Australia, and we commend this Association to them.

ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Joint Hon. Secretaries:
P.J. MOUNTSTEPHEN
62-5418 267-1077
J.A.E. VOYSEY
67-7656

Hon. Treasurer:
D.O. PARSONS
Box 227E
G.P.O.
Melbourne
67-8603

c/o Insurance Brokers Pty. Ltd.,

31 Queen Street,

Melbourne, 3000.

September 1969

Dear Headmaster,

Thirty-five years ago a small group of English Public Schools Old Boys resident in Victoria formed this Association to keep in touch one with the other, and I am pleased to say that the Association is still active in providing a means of contact.

Our membership now numbers 120 and we are also in touch with local Associations of several schools, but do feel there are a considerable number of Old Boys who are not aware of the existence of this Association.

I am writing, therefore, to ask you to bear in mind the existence of this Association, and to draw it to the attention of any of your Old Boys who may be coming to Australia. Further, I should be pleased to have the names of any of your Old Boys who are in Australia, particularly in Melbourne or Victoria, or the name of the Secretary should there be an Association of your Old Boys in Australia.

It is proposed to hold in April 1970 an "Old Boys" dinner, extending to Old Boys of the Affiliated Schools, not necessarily members of our Association, an opportunity to attend either as a group or as individuals, and I should be grateful if appropriate publicity could be given to this function through the Old Boys or School Magazine, and would suggest that those interested communicate with our Honorary Secretaries.

Yours sincerely,

E.C. FARLEY (Alleyn's)

President.

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD

Editor's Note: Not until the Official Secrets Act was lifted on the following details could the ghastly story be told. More deadly than Dracula, more fearful than Frankenstein, we proudly present – a bird's-eye-view of Cricket Tour 1969. Read on at your peril.

It's so long ago that you are probably not even interested, but O.H. notes can be rather like Curly's food—and if anything needs spice, it does.

At varying hours between "the pubs aren't open yet", and "Has the game started already?" Old Haberdashers arrived in Seaton to wish they hadn't left Elstree. It was an exciting game against Seaton—I did my nails, gained the first layer of my sun tan, wrote some postcards—even went to post them—and came back to see the last ball and one stump dribbling down that accursed hill to third man meaning that we had lost by 112 runs.

That night we returned to the hotel after christening the Tour with Seaton C.C. beer. Curly greeted us with a meal, and his usual, genial, you-know-what's-coming-as-well-as-I-do, "Tip, Top! Tip, Top!". A few members of the party decided to relive the pleasures and flesh-pots of the past by visiting the "Volunteer", intimately known as the Eureka. Unfortunately it did not quite live up to its previous reputation and one brief visit sufficed to make those concerned realise that it would be best left as a glorious memory

Although it may be possible to give a ball by ball account of Tour it is certainly impossible to give an hour by hour resumé, as it was not a school visit and we did not walk around, holding our partner's hand with Uncle Derek at the front of the line pointing out the historical remains of Ottery St. Mary. Morning entertainment varied between swimming, golf—i.e. erratic putting fishing, bird watching -which varied in form depending upon the age of the participant—and recovering from the night before.

After a defeat by eight wickets at Budleigh Salterton a small party, consisting of Derek Kenwood, Anne and David Maconachie, Donald and Joan Lundie, Peter Dickson, Ian and Judy Smart, partook of a meal at the "Three Horseshoes", near Branscombe. When duck was served to five of those present, two received legs, two received wings and one member of the party acquired the remainder of the bird, sans only head and feathers. The only bird watching Derek did that evening was as Ian dissected the lion's share of an excellent meal.

Monday passed with sun and a loss against the Doghouse C.C., a club on tour from Teeside, and yet another meal in the evening, this time at the Mason's Arms, Branscombe. May it suffice to say that Joan and I recommend the lobster.

I cannot say much about the next game at Seale Hayne, save that we drew. The reason being that Keith Underwood, Alan Phipps and myself went for a wild drive onto Dartmoor. There are photographs available for inspection on the production of a student's union card at Sussex University Student Files, showing a cross-eyed sheep and a blurred speck on the horizon that looks suspiciously like the top of Keith's head. There is also on record from this auspicious occasion an intellectual conversation that took place over lunch about the social behaviour of ants and a biological dissection with lecture notes on a fungus that happened to be growing right under where Alan was sitting.

On Wednesday we won by three wickets in an exciting game. It was a truly beautiful day and an excellent setting for a cricket ground. A cricket field placed amongst undulating hills, next to a village that boasted two shops, a church and three streets. It was unfortunate that Peter Davis, whilst trying to stop a fast ball, injured his hand and had to retire. (He's paying me a fortune to write this, already!) He was taken to hospital that evening by Leigh Strachan and myself, and although I have been called many things before, never have I been likened to Rock Hudson's wife, Leigh Strachan's mother and countless other nom de plumes that Peter acquired for me that evening when he convinced a poor, and when we left, demented, sister that he was everyone but P. Davis, Esq.

Thursday for me meant fishing with Alan Phipps, Peter Davis (fully recovered), Richard Saville and Ian Smart. Oh yes, we caught a few, but out of the five in the boat it was left to me to take the hook out of the fishes mouth and practically gut the things. MEN!

The game in the afternoon was won, most emphatically, by O.H., i.e. by nine wickets. Those who viewed the game will agree with me when I say, thank heaven Lloyd Baker was given out by his own umpire.

We spent the evening at Sidmouth Clubhouse where several of the younger members of the party secured the fruit machine. They started off with 2/- and managed to hold the machine with this small investment for three hours. At our peak we reached 56/- and then slumped back to ouroriginal stake which we lost. No-one on the fruit-machine bought any beer, it was all bought for us, and an evening's entertainment for 2/- for ten cannot be bad!

On Friday morning a select band went putting at Sidmouth. May I add here that I am indebted to the excellent placing of Robin Vallance's right foot, without which I would never have been placed second in the game. Strange as it may seem, this foot stopped balls that would normally have gone 250 yards down the fairway on a 5 yard put, and also helped shots that dribbled 2 inches off the tee on a 10 yard shot!

Friday secured a draw at Exeter University. The weather WAS excellent, so IS the grass bank at the west end of the pitch that catches all the sun. I must comment on Exeter teas—they are marvellous. Man sized sandwiches provided by man size men. Any-one who complains about ex-term time Exeter teas should be shot on sight. Even when these young men are going to have their end of term Ball in the evening, they bother to produce something for their opposition.

Friday night at the hotel produced a meal that even Alan Phipps condescended to partake of. It was Curly's piece de resistance (sans accents!) By this time we were all too merry to remember much about it, and when I come to think, maybe we paid for Alan Phipps' meal!

Friday night we got drunk and Saturday we came home.

It could have been a noisy drive home if it hadn't been for the night before. Colin Done, Alan Phipps and Godfrey Haslehurst can be amazingly quiet when they are asleep—and so am I

Thanks for having me, and I'd like to come again—if you'll let me, of course!

THIRTY YEARS ON or A LA RECHERCHE DU TEMPS PERDU

On the 13th June 1969 a reunion was held at the Pavilion of that very fine and successful side, the "A" XV of 1938/39. Of the fifteen in the photograph taken outside the Pavilion in the Spring of 1939, Colin Colquhoun was, of course, killed in the war and nothing has been heard for some years of Ian Millar and Gordon Steele (can anyone help?) In addition to the remaining twelve, another five were carded, who had played fairly regularly for the "A" XV during that season.

Twelve acceptances were received: E.H. Amstein, J.A.R. Beaumont, D.A. Blessley, J.B. Blowfield, S. Gaywood, T.F. Graham, R.L. Hargrave, F.L. Ingram, R.A. Mallison, D.A. Steed, W.R. Tanner and R.M.B. Tiddy. The five who could not come were. P.G. Ashberry (wedding anniversary), W.S.M. Gurney, R.N. Dayer Smith (on holiday in Scotland), G.W. Spiers (mess night, but did not specify what his duties were) and A.S. Wilshire (daughter's birthday).

We also invited two who were not lucky enough to play for the "A" XV of 1939, i.e. K.H. Blessley, but for whose efforts there would have been no ground or pavilion in 1969, and M.J. Jackman, Captain of the Club in 1939 and also D.G. Kenward the current President of the Rugby Club.

An excellent meal was provided by John and Liz Hanson, Basil laid on some quite drinkable sherry, whilst Eric Purcell kindly acted as unpaid barman and photographer.

The 1939 photograph was produced and gave incontrovertible proof that Charlie, Ralph and Dick did once have a good head of hair! Dick was completely out-talked by Derek, which goes to show that the younger generation are superior to their elders in some respects at least!

It was a great pleasure to see Ronnie Mallison who had come such a long way to be present and also Ralph and Frank and one or two others who, for one reason or another, are not able to get to Elstree as often as some of us. Stanley Gaywood, recently retired from banking, has been out to Italy and likes it so much that he is proposing to leave Radlett for good and go back to Italy to live. We all threatened to descend on him for a holiday next Summer.

Surprisingly enough not one of the fifteen beds reserved by Ralph in the geriatric ward of the Edgware General Hospital were needed and in the absence of any news to the contrary one can only assume that everyone got home safely.

Old victories were re-lived, mythical tries and crashing tackles talked about, and it was unanimously agreed to hold another such reunion but not to wait until 1999 to do so.

PAST PLAYERS' REUNION

Having heard of the success of the 1938/39 O.H.R.F.C. "A" XV reunion, Alan F. Cooper, (1942–46) with the aid of a little delegation (the late Gilbert Husband was his immediate superior for a number of years!) organised a pre-match buffet lunch gathering at the Clubhouse on April 4th 1970.

Over 200 retired players were contacted and in spite of early holidays, prior engagements and (in numerous cases) distance, precisely fifty foregathered, while a few others missed the fun and saw only the match in the afternoon.

Of the pre-war generation, G. Derek O. Burge (1912–16) was probably the senior, while, inevitably, George B. Jamieson (1916–26) travelled up from Chippenham. Stanley E. Phillips (1912–19), R.A. (Bunty) Phillips (1916–22) and Hugh Tierney (1924–31) were others whose interest lay in volume one of the records, rather than the later statistics.

Of the post-war era, it was particularly encouraging to see Brian S. Howard (1941–49), who teaches at St. Bees in Cumberland, and Derek Vink (1939–41) who had travelled down from Corby, near Northampton, during the morning. Stuart A. Dunsford (1936–42) (from Ongar) and Ralph L. Hargraves (1928–33) (from the wilds of Surrey) each created personal non-playing records by appearing at the Ground for the second time in less than a year. To keep the report authentic, it must also be admitted that James W. Felton (1947–56) and brother Douglas J. (1951–60) were adamant about their being *past* players. On the other hand, Michael Beaman (1946–52) insisted upon being carded for the 'C' XV the following week – obviously he had forgotten (by then) that he was bound to have a golf date!

Apart from the four seasons 1952–56, the past Club captains for the period 1931–1965 were all present. In addition to the previously mentioned Stanley Phillips and George Jamieson, M.J. (Jumbo) Jackman (1925–32), Kenneth H. Blessley (1920–32), Arthur H.S. Kerswill (1936–41) John G. Stagg (1937–45), Alan F. Cooper (1942–46), Marshall S. Lumsden (1945–52) and Philip Alterman (1942–49) were the others—albeit the organiser and John Stagg were paying guests. We were also delighted to see that our sole London Society referee, Jack A. Tout (1926–31) had been able to arrange for a day off.

This note would not be complete without mentioning the excellent calibre of the food provided, and we are indebted to Harold E. Couch (1949–54) for having organised a first-class caterer.

1940–49 DECADE DINNER

Appropriately, Eric T. Purcell (1944) presided over a record attendance from his decade at the Clubhouse on Friday, April 10th 1970. From their first meeting in October 1965, when 47 were present (excluding three guests), the number increased to 53 (plus five guests) in 1968, and this time, with the help of four guests, mustered 61.

After the usual warming-up period, dinner was served at 8.15 p.m. by Fern Robinson and Rosemary Hyman, who certainly deserved the thanks paid by the President after the meal. One can imagine the result if professional waitresses were asked to cope with about 30 customers each! Once again the food was organised by John Hanson but, in his absence on a few days' holiday, Maureen and Alan and their assistant did a grand job in the kitchen.

Eric also thanked Chris Robinson who found himself in his usual place behind the bar (until the arrival of John Boon) instead of having a welcome break on the other side.

Pride of place for the long-distance travellers went to Mick Milner (Teeside) by a short head from Colin Paterson and John Bridger from Yorkshire. Peter Freitag had hoped to make the journey from Darlington but had telephoned earlier to report a last-minute hitch, while Tony Littlewood failed to get his connexion from Helsinki in time. Others who had testimony to Basil Blowfield's brain-wave in 1965 by making special efforts, were Gordon Ecob (Derbyshire), John Haas (Huntingdonshire), David

Coggins (Beds), Hugh Warren (Kent) and his guest (brother Graham) from Oxford, while the dozen from the depth of Surrey are, regretfully, too numerous to name. However, as Alan Cooper does the journey nearly every winter week-end, perhaps the President's mention of them deserved the derisive reception it received.

The guests were: Ellis Cinnamon (1938), Past President O.H A , Roger J. Easterbrook (1953), Secretary O.H.C C., W.R. (Nobby) Tanner (1935) and Graham P. Warren (1951). The members of the decade (listed below) included a Past President of O.H.A., the President O.H C.C., the present and past Presidents of O.H.A.C., the Secretary O.H.R.F.C., the present and a past Treasurer, O.H.R.F.C a past Secretary O.H.C.C. and four past captains O.H.R.F.C.—an indication of the service rendered to the O.H. by this era.

Those present were:—

Philip Alterman (49)
Peter N. Atlas (40)
John R. Bridger (45)
John N. Burrell (40)
Michael J. Casson (47)
Alan J. Charig (44)
David E. Coggins (48)
John W. Coggins (46)
John F. Connelly (48)
Richard W.M. Cook (47)
Alan F. Cooper (46)
Bernard Dawkins (43)
Gordon S.N. Ecob (42)
Eric V.A. Escoffey (45)
Derek L. Fletcher (44)
Neil Forsyth (45)
John E. Foster (49)
Brian A. Goodmen (43)
John A. Haas (43)
E.W. (Bill) Hamley (45)
Rex C. Harris (45)
David B. Hassell (43)
John S. Hawkes (43)
J. Michael Hindom (44)
David A. James (47)
Raymond P. Kalman (48)
Bernard Katz (46)
Fred T. Last (45)
John A. Lidington (48)
Brian E. Lucas (40)
John Mason (47)
Jim Matthew (47)
Robin M. Matthew (49)
Michael J. Milner (48)
David H. Newbury-Ecob (44)
W.A.V. (Tony) Odoni (40)
Colin S. Paterson (48)
James J.S. Reynolds (45)
Chris J. Robinson (48)
Harry P. Schon (46)
Rudi M. Sheldon (42)
Bernard Smith (42)
Clifford R. Smith (47)
John G. Stagg (45)
Norman G.M. Stares (49)
Peter J. Stevenson (46)
Stefan B. Tietz (45)
Robert T. Tragett (44)
Peter M. Ward (46)
Hugh F. Warren (49)
Donald W. Wells (48)
Douglas F. Wells (46)
John R. Wells (43)
A.T. (Tony) White (46)
Reg Wilkinson (45)
Brian E. Wilson (49)

ASSOCIATION DANCES

Three highly successful dances have been held at the Clubhouse since our last edition.

On December 19th 1969 and March 14th 1970 dancing was to Dacentune Discotheque, on April 18th 1970 music was provided by Harlequin Discotheque, from the Harlequin record shop in Edgware.

Excellent food was provided on all three occasions, and thanks are due to:—

Jeanne Kenward, Judy Smart and Di Curtis (December 19th)
Pat and Peter Vacher (March 14th)
Colin Blessley (April 18th)

The eternal thanks of all those who attended the December dance are due to Tony and Di Curtis, and Ian and Judy Smart, who nearly drowned in the rain whilst collecting the decorative holly the previous weekend.

So far, so good. Now comes the punch line. At each dance only about 90 people attended—so we (and you!) lost money. May we ask, beg or implore you to try to attend the next dance, to make it a success. We promise that you will enjoy it—and we will enjoy your company.

Do come.

HABERDASHERS' OLD BOYS' LODGE No. 3362

Secretary: D.W. Wells,
9, Church Crescent,
Whetstone,
London, N.20.

Telephone: 01–368 1144

At the Installation Meeting held on 20th December 1969, Ernest Eng was installed as Master of the Lodge for the ensuing year. Since then, successful meetings have been held in February and April, and the brethren are now looking forward to the next meeting in October.

There are now over 70 members of the Lodge, of all age-groups, from those who were at the Elstree School to at least one who attended the School whilst it was still at Hoxton. I will be very pleased to give information to any Old Boy, or Master at the School, who may be interested in joining the Lodge. He will be assured of a warm welcome at our meetings which are held on the third Saturdays in October December, February and April.

O.H. ATHLETICS CLUB

After a particularly successful season in 1969, we are hoping this year will see a further rise both in our membership and our fortunes. Nevertheless, we would still like to see more people at our fixtures and at the social gathering we usually hold after the match.

In particular we would like to welcome any recent school-leavers. Details of fixtures, venues or help with transport can be obtained from:– Howard Brabrook (Office) 01-432 5616
(Home) 01-458 5766

Our fixtures this year include:–

June	10	League fixture	Copthall Stadium
	25	League fixture	Gayton Road
July	7	League fixture	Rutlish
	16	Relays	Gayton Road
	30	League fixture	Cassiobury Park

OLD HABERDASHERS' CRICKET CLUB

President: J.A. LIDINGTON Captain: I.C. SMART Hon Secretary: R.J. EASTERBROOK,
58 Cassiobury Drive,
Watford, Herts.
Telephone: Watford 42584.

Well folks, I suppose by now that you have waded through the floods of drama published in our last issue and are waiting patiently for the next instalment.

Where shall we begin?

I imagine that for most people the cliff-hanging item in the last report was the following (and I quote):– "Ian Smart has indicated that he wishes to relinquish the captaincy after three years–his successor will be named in the next issue". Ha! You weren't really fooled by that, were you? In the best traditions of the Club (famed the world over for doing the expected) guess who was re-elected Captain at the A.G.M. in March? Right in one. He was. Guess who owns the Club box

Seriously though, those members who bothered to attend the A.G.M. (all 19 of them—must do better next year chaps!) were privileged to hear a withering expose of the rights and wrongs of the Club by the reruing Captain He pointed out that in his three years as Captain the 1st XI had played 69 matches, won 26, drawn 17, and lost 26. In every single game that was lost the reason for losing was an abject batting failure in which no batsman scored more than 15—20 runs. The moral? Consistency! The cure—net practice. The Captain then re-elected himself unanimously. (Editor's note: to those readers who are lost in this drivel, and are about to write to the Times complaining about libellous innuendo—don't bother. Smartie can take care of himself).

Other new star-studded appointments were:—

1st XI Vice-Captain	Martin Fairley
2nd XI Captain	Stephen Morgan
2nd XI Vice-Captain	Richard Tucker
Fixture Secretary	Roy Lidington

Welcome, gentlemen, and good luck!

O H.C.C. 1ST XI v THE SCHOOL

JULY 12TH 1969

Back Row (standing) Left to Right :-

C.R. Done, G.S. Haslehurst, D.J L. Goy, J R. Matthewman, L.M. Strachan, A J. Phipps, Mr. J. Bartlett (Umpire)

Front Row (sitting) Left to Right :-

J.E. Bartlett, B.R. Albone, I.C Smart (Captain), M C. Fairley, J.C. Ridgley.

During the winter (which goes on and on) special guest-packed evenings were held. About 60 playing, honorary and associate members and their friends attended the first cricket evening at the Clubhouse on January 7th 1970. Two films were shown and our special guest, Peter Parfitt, entertained all present with a highly amusing, informal chat. The first film, "Fight for the Ashes", covered the history of Test matches between England and Australia from 1930 to 1962. There were brief glimpses of all the stars from the past to the present, including a few frames (best forgotten) of our guest for the evening

The other film, "Prospect of Play", one of the latest colour films in the Rothman's Catalogue, featured the Test Series between England and Australia in 1968, and will surely be remembered for those colour close-ups of the mighty Colin Milburn hooking the quickies.

Peter Parfitt, whose benefit year it is, was in great form and held his listeners (yes—even D.G.K.) with many an inside story. What on earth would cricket raconteurs talk about these days if it had not been for Freddie Trueman? All those, by the way, who have suffered at the hands of Club Umpires should try India.

Thanks are due to Joan Easterbrook and Judy Smart for braving the cold and the cricket to provide an excellent supper.

Now, the all-important question—has Peter Parfitt's talk had an effect on cricket in S.W. Herts? Almost certainly it has. Not necessarily with the bat and ball, but with the dialogue of the game. Quite obviously cricketers in the upper echelons of the game have developed and perfected the art of modifying colleagues' christian names by the addition of the suffix "y" (or is it "ie"?) Hence Kenny Barrington, Freddie Trueman, etc. But not Teddy Dexter. Watch out for it, or rather listen to it on the playing fields of S.W. Herts this summer. Note to players: if your name doesn't convert easily, change it for one that does, and do it soon before it affects selection.

Incidentally, we will be supporting Peter Parfitt in his benefit year. He has presented us (or will when he can find it) with a very fine autographed bat, which we will raffle for him, and he hopes to attend our Annual Dinner in October to make the draw. Peter tells me that his benefit County Match will be the game against Sussex at Lords over the Spring Holiday weekend.

On March 4th 1970, Jim Dunbar would have come to Borehamwood to present a fascinating slide talk "Focus on Cricket". He would have come, but didn't as North London was under about 10 feet of snow. Which was a pity because Mr. Dunbar is the Secretary of the National Cricket Association, and a regular contributor to "The Cricketer". Better luck next year. Enough of history. What of the coming (and by the time you read this, almost-finished) season?

During the winter months the cricket table has been given a real treat. A considerable sum of money has been spent on above-average amount of top-dressing and treatment. Additionally a new, larger water main is being laid to facilitate watering and subsequent rolling. At the time of writing it is pouring with rain and there is no prospect of play for at least three months. A new motor mower will certainly further improve the outfield, and other work is in progress which will ensure that the ground in 1970 will be at its best yet.

The cricket? Oh yes. We shall endeavour to maintain the improvement of last year. The welcome return of Peter Graham and Roger Wilkinson should more than offset the loss of John Ridgley. The other familiar faces are there—as they are in the 2nd XI. Finally—a plug. There is a game at the Club on every Saturday and Sunday in the season except on June 20th. Do come and support us—please. You will enjoy the cricket, the hospitality and the scenery. We will enjoy having you there.

OLD HABERDASHERS' GOLFING SOCIETY

President: Sir HAROLD PARKER, K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C. Captain: G.J. HERSEY Secretary: M. BEAMAN
36, Moor Lane,
Rickmansworth.
Tel: Office 01-4370488
Home Rw 75639

These notes will appear (in the usual way) long after they are written, which means that they will be somewhat out of date, and the season probably half over! Don't let that worry you—the Secretary will be glad to hear from anyone who is interested in playing with (or for!) the Society. The Annual Dinner is particularly recommended—on Thursday, 2nd July at Hendon

Fixture for 1970: –

Date	Venue	Fixture	Time	Manager
Thurs. 30 April	Ashridge	SPRING MEETING	9 a.m.	Secretary
Friday 29 May	Finchley	O. Elysians	5 p.m.	S. Thompson
Friday 5 June	Finchley	O. Finchleyans	5 p.m.	S. Thompson
Thurs. 11 June	Hendon	U.C.S. Old Boys	5 p.m.	Secretary
Thurs. 25 June	Moor Park	O.M.T.	5 p.m.	Secretary
Thurs. 2 July	Hendon	SUMMER MEETING	4 p.m.	Secretary
To be fixed	Porters Park	School	2 p.m.	E. Hyams
Wed. 2 Sept.	Northwood	GUESTS' MEETING	9 a.m.	Captain
SAT. 26 Sept.	Ashridge	AUTUMN MEETING	9 a.m.	Secretary
9 – 11 October	Hunstanton	Grafton Morrish Final Rounds		E. Hyams

OLD HABERDASHERS' RUGBY FIVES CLUB

HON SECRETARY: MICHAEL CLAYDEN, Christ's College,
Cambridge, CB2 3BU

The Club has completed another successful season, the 1st IV winning 14 of its 24 matches, including a notable first-ever victory over Old Bedford Modernians. This is a reflection of the increasing interest in Fives promoted by the Club both within the Old Boys and School.

New members, Playing and Honorary, are invited to contact the Hon. Secretary at any time.

Old Haberdashers' R.F.C.

President: A.T. WHITE, ESQ

Hon. Secretary: D.G. KENWARD, 11 Barham Avenue, Elstree, Herts.

Hon. Treasurer: J.W. COGGINS, 49 East Towers, Pinner, Middlesex. (President)

Up to Saturday, 11th April our results are as follows:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
1st XV	31	14	2	15	252	288
'A' XV	26	10	2	14	311	337
Ex 'A' XV	23	10	2	11	259	313
'B' XV	7	2	—	5	59	139
'C' XV	18	11	—	7	287	228
Skylarks	3	3	—	—	92	3

For the first time since 1964/65 the 1st XV have reached double figures with their games won and this very much more satisfactory state of affairs is the outcome of the improved fitness and morale that characterises the side. Julian Littlewood has set great store by fitness and the results are due in large part to his ability to make his side train. Added to this we have had available two excellent players from the 1968/69 School Side in fly-half Andy Scott and wing-forward Roger Walters—Andy in his first season in Club rugby has represented Hertfordshire 2nd XV. Rob Matthewman has been travelling down from Nottingham each week and brother John has played in the centre when available. Nigel Fuller, having recovered from his back trouble, is in the side and has become the third player to achieve 350 games for the 1st XV, whilst Peter Stewart and Barry Albone are the 18th and 19th to reach 200 on post war games. Melvin Steele, now appearing at full-back, and Roger Leverton passed the 150 mark. Roger, injured against the Old Millhillians, is playing again following an operation for removal of a cartilage. After the game at Newton Abbott, we said goodbye to Chris Menezies who has emigrated to Australia—he will be a great loss to the Club. Nick Usiskin, having scored 37 points for the 'A' XV at the beginning of the season, is now playing very well in the centre and showing much improved form on last year. Although over 40 players have played for the 1st XV this season, we are beginning to rebuild a side that in two or three years' time could be very good indeed.

Lack of confidence at the beginning of the season accounted for results that would certainly be reversed if the games were played again—Old Blues (3—3), Dunstonians (3—14) and London University (3—8) would now be regarded as certain wins. From the middle of November to the beginning of February the 1st XV only lost 3 games out of 13, accounting for Old Paulines (12—3), Cranleighans (14—6), Millhillians (3—0), U.C.S. Old Boys (14—5) and Askeans (8—3). The chief points scorers have been Melvin Steele on 94 with 8 tries, Andy Scott has 45 with 5 tries and Peter Stewart and Nick Usiskin each have 6 tries.

The 'A' XV got off to a reasonable start but ran into a bad patch in November losing 6 games in a row including a narrow loss against the School. However, under John Hanson, there were some fine wins including excellent performances against Tring 1st XV (27—3) and Leighton Buzzard 1st XV (17—3). Apart from Nick Usiskin, Martin Eades has 24 points.

Peter Davis, the ex 'A' skipper, was needed for the 'A' XV when David Stern took over from Roger Leverton in the 1st XV and Ian Powell took over the side in his absence. The results are very much improved on last year but the side has still suffered from only the occasional availability of experienced players. The side beat Leighton Buzzard 'A' XV 15—14 and U.C.S. Old Boys 17—8 with the help of Roger Skinner. Mike Ewer has contributed 40 points to their total.

The 'B' XV didn't start to function until mid-December, but Alan Cooper has again led the 'C' XV to finish with the best record in the Club. Dick Cook and his dummy have scored 10 tries and John Stagg has scored 75 points for the side.

John Stagg's total for the season is 96 points, and apart from those mentioned before, Jerry Bartlett has scored 47 points, John Cooper 45, Nick Usiskin 55 and Jack Elliott 54. Jack's total of 18 tries includes 8 scored at Honiton on Good Friday, a Club record.

123 players have represented the Club this season and we have been very fortunate in having 22 Schoolboys playing for us since Christmas.

Before leaving the playing side a brief word on a very enjoyable Easter Tour stage-managed by our President, Derek Kenward. He found accommodation for approximately 90, including 40 players, at three hotels in Torquay which suited our requirements. On Good Friday on the way down the 1st XV easily beat Honiton 23—6 and the Skylarks ran riot against their 2nd XV scoring 71 points to nil. On the Saturday afternoon, the Skylarks beat Newton Abbott Juniors by 9 points to three but we had to wait until the evening to see the 1st XV give their best performance of the season in beating Newton Abbott for the first time by 8 points to 6. Andy Scott scored the two tries, one of which was goaled, against our opponents 2 penalty goals. The gap between the two games gave the spectators a chance to lose their money at the races across the road. The game on the Monday was a disappointment—we could have beaten Paignton but lost 3—9. However, the Skylarks completed the hat-trick by winning 12 points to nil.

O.H.R.F.C. 1st XV – 1969-70

Left to Right'—

Back row: A.T. White (Secretary), T.L. Evans, J. Elliott, R.E.G. Walters, N.A. Fuller, B.N. Rolfe, N. Usiskin, W.P. Watson, R.G. Matthewman, D.G. Kenward (President).

Middle row: P.C. Stewart, B.R. Albone, J. Littlewood (Captain), R.F. Leverton, M.W.R. Steele.

Front row: A.P. Scott, C.P. Menezies.

SOCIAL EVENTS. The Club's three social events were all very successful. The Annual Dinner was attended by 170, with our President, Derek Kenward, in the chair and Jack Marshall, President of Hertfordshire, as our principal guest. 80 came along to the Beef and Beer party in the Clubhouse at the end of February and we managed to make a small profit on the function which has now become a regular event. On Saturday April 4th, before the game against O.M.T.s, Alan Cooper organised an Old Players Reunion. Over 50 were present around mid-day, and an excellent lunch was laid on by Harold Couch. We are very grateful to all those who have helped run these events

Your committee were not satisfied with the standard of food etc. at the Hendon Hall and decided to try alternative suggestions. Next season's Dinner will be held at Plantation House, Mincing Lane, E.C.4. on Saturday, 9th January 1971. Please make a note of the date, the nearest we could get to December, as our principal guest will be Bill Ramsay, who, as you know, will be President of the R.F.U. for the second time in their Centenary Year.

NEW MEMBERS

Since the last issue of the Notes (No. 156) the following Gentlemen have been admitted to membership of the Association:—

D.J. Allsop (1969)	8 Barn Crescent, Stanmore, Middx
R.A. Barlow (1969)	30 Goodyers Avenue, Radlett, Herts.
S.W. Barry (1969 Dec.)	The Coppice, 25 Barham Avenue, Elstree, Herts.
H.G. Davis (1967)	23 Park Way, Friern Barnet, London N.20.
R.A. Foster (1969)	119 Windmill Lane, Bushey Heath, Herts.
E.K.N. Hsu (1968 Dec.)	9 West Heath Close, London N.W.3.
P.F. Humber (1969)	4 Woodside Mansions, Muswell Hill, London N.10.
B.J. Kahn (1968)	56 Windermere Avenue, Finchley, London N.3.
D.E. MacArthur (1969 Dec.)	7 Selvage Lane, Mill Hill, London N.W.7.
P.S. Mackie (1969)	31 Lambolle Road, London N.W.3.
A.J. McGregor (1968)	Far End, Wylde Close, London, N.W.11.
N.P. McIver (1969)	114 Nibthwaite Road, Harrow, Middx.
D.R. Nicklin (1969)	Oaklands, 8 Lodge Avenue, Elstree, Herts.
J.R. Partridge (1969 Dec.)	19 Westmorland Road, Harrow, Middx., HA1 4PN
P.I. Payne (1968 Dec.)	Wisley, Gills Hill Lane, Radlett, Herts.
P. Robin (1969 Dec.)	White Lodge, Arkley Drive, Arkley, Herts.
M.B. Rolfe (1969)	Sandon, Tudor Close, Kingsbury, London N.W.9.
M.H. Ross (1968 Dec.)	5 Stevenage Crescent, Borehamwood, Herts.
D.J. Rule (1968)	Highfield, Brooks Hill, Harrow Weald, Middx.
V.J. Schilt (1969 Dec.)	24 Elms Road, Harrow, Middx., 4A3 6BQ.
A.P. Scott (1969)	11 Sunderland Avenue, St. Albans, Herts.
J.C. Steele (1969)	144 Salmon Street, Kingsbury, London N.W.9.
R.G. Tattersall (1967 Dec.)	21 Gallows Hill, Kings Langley, Herts.
C. Trayner (1969)	11 LangtonAvenue, London N.20.
D.P. Vanstone (1968)	8 Deacons Hill Road, Elstree, Herts.
R.E.G. Walters (1969)	100 Whitmore Road, Harrow, Middx.

CORRESPONDENT FOR O.H. NOTES

Information, notifications, criticism and suggestions for the next issue of the Old Boys' Notes should be forwarded to theCorrespondent:—

IAN C. SMART
1 Avenue Road, St. Albans, Herts.
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